

PRINCETON MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT
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**BOARD OF LIGHT COMMISSIONERS
ZOOM PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
November 9, 2022**

Action Items:

Commissioner Gott- will check on the MVP program concerning acceptable backup.

The public meeting was called to order at 3:03pm.

Present were Commissioner- Rick Rys, Commissioner- Phil Gott, General Manager- Sean McKeon, Chris Courville, Roger Brooks, and Karen Mammone.

Attending via ZOOM- Commissioner- Richard Chase and Brian Pellerin.

Agenda:

The Board voted unanimously in favor (3-0) to accept the November 9, 2022 agenda as written.

Meeting Minutes:

October 12, 2022, Public Meeting Minutes-The Board voted unanimously (3-0) to accept the meeting minutes as amended.

Change dollar amount under IRA (Inflation Reduction Act) from \$80,00 to \$80,000 for vans.

October 12, 2022, Executive Meeting Minutes- The Board will discuss during the Executive Session meeting.

General Manager's Report:

Current Bank Balances-

The Board read over the bank account balances report dated November 9, 2022. A copy will be placed on file. All bills are paid in a timely manner.

2022 Cashflow Budget Review-

Mr. McKeon presented the Board with a copy of the 2022 budget detail dated November 7, 2022. A copy will be placed on file. The cashflow figures were for January-September 2022 with a target of 75.00 %. Mr. McKeon stated that revenues were at 80.83 % and expenses were at 75.76%.

Update on Operations:

- The Sterling Interconnection Project- Agreement between Princeton and Sterling was drawn up. Sterling currently has the documents. Sterling has a few questions they would like MMWEC (Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Company) to answer before signing. When the agreement is signed, PMLD will begin ordering supplies and move forward with the project.
- Steps for the Project- Once the Sterling Interconnection agreement has been signed, PMLD will need to frame the poles to hold three new wires, install switches, metering, regulators, and a recloser.
- Wind Turbine Repair- The turbines have been down since being struck by lightning in September. After many weeks of Baldwin trouble shooting, they thought the problem could be the converter cards.

A temporary service maintenance contract was signed with AMSC Windtec Solutions in Austria. Their IT person confirmed the converter cards were damaged unfortunately the converter cards are made uniquely to each turbine. As of this meeting, AMSC is still working on creating converter cards for the turbines.

- MMWEC Battery- MMWEC (Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company) is close to a deal with a master service agreement. The company will start rolling out the batteries in 2024 thru 2026. Mr. McKeon requested PMLD be one of the first for battery delivery.
- Solar Policy Document- The Board agreed to keep 30 KWh maximum for residential homes.
- Groton Policy Document- Only one resident in town called on this policy.
- Itron Metering Issue- The meter reading program is still down as of today. The November bills will be estimated based on the September usage. Billing will go out tomorrow. Mr. McKeon will write up something for Facebook so customers will know what is going on with this month reads.
- Billing Format- The office staff will have Northern Data quote having them create and mail our monthly bills. Currently Northern Data handles one part of the billing. When changes were made to the solar bills, the staff called two companies to create in the background the changes needed. One company to oversee everything would have been easier.

Budget 2023:

Mr. McKeon created the budget for 2023. The rental peak generator program will not be on next year's budget. The Sterling Interconnection budget will be carried over to 2023. The building and office expense went up due to the fact the flooring in the building will need to be replaced and the electrical service will need to be upgraded. The Commissioners will look over the budget and approve it at the next meeting.

Princeton Solar Project:

Commissioner Chase mentioned DCR is only interested in swapping or buying land especially on the eastern side of Princeton which feeds into the Wachusett Reservoir. The DCR would prefer swamp or wetlands which would need to be equal or of greater resource value. Commissioner Gott suggested land off Coal Kiln Rd. Commissioner Chase will investigate the land.

Facebook/Website:

This month the only new posting will be concerning the billing delays.

New Business/Parking Lot:

Commissioner Rys attended a morning meeting. He asked the Board and Mr. McKeon if they be interested in hosting a Senior luncheon at PMLD. Commissioner Rys made a motion that PMLD should try to organize over the next few months a luncheon for seniors. All Board members in favor (3-0).

Public Session:

Princeton resident, Mr. Brooks, spoke on what a great job Mr. McKeon is doing, and the rate payers are benefitting from the changes implemented. Commissioner Rys mentioned the Linemen and Office Staff are first rate. Mr. McKeon mentioned everyone's heart is in it. Mr. Brooks added long term we are going to be in good shape.

At 4:38pm the Board voted unanimously in favor (3-0) to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Mammone- Recording Secretary