

PRINCETON MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT
P O BOX 247
168 WORCESTER RD
PRINCETON MA 01541
TEL: 978-464-2815
FAX: 978-464-5377

**BOARD OF LIGHT COMMISSIONERS
ZOOM PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 12, 2023**

Action Items:

No action items this month.

The public meeting was called to order at 3:04 p.m.

Present were Commissioner- Rick Rys, Commissioner- Phil Gott, General Manager- Sean McKeon, General Foreman- Chris Courville, Ashley Reddy, and Karen Mammone

Zoom: Commissioner- Richard Chase

Agenda:

The Board voted unanimously in favor (3-0) to accept the written December 12, 2023, agenda.

Meeting Minutes:

October 10, 2023, Executive Meeting Minutes- The Board voted unanimously in favor (3-0) to accept the minutes as written.

November 7, 2023, Public Meeting Minutes- The Board voted unanimously in favor of (3-0) to accept the minutes as written.

General Manager's Report:

Current Bank Balances-

The Board reviewed the bank account balances report dated December 12, 2023. A copy will be placed on file. All bills are paid in a timely manner.

2023 Cashflow Budget Review-

Mr. McKeon presented the board with a copy of the 2023 budget details dated December 12, 2023. A copy will be placed on file. The cash flow figures were for January-October 2023, with a target of 83.33%. Mr. McKeon stated that revenues were 91.18% and expenses were 82.33%.

Update on Operations:

- **New Bill Format:** - Mr. McKeon submitted the rate codes for the new billing. NDS will enter the rates and send a sample copy for approval.
- **MMWEC Battery Storage Project-** DeLorean contacted Mr. McKeon, and a decision was made that the wind site would not be a good place for the battery storage project. They cited concerns with the wind turbine and ice shed of the blades as one issue. The second problem, after some research, is that the site has a right of way for maintenance of the wind turbines. The contract does not state for other uses, so DeLorean would like the contract with DCR rewritten to include battery storage. After some discussion,

the battery storage could fit on PMLD property. Some prep work would be required along Worcester Road from the Center to The Barn. The noise level from the battery is as loud as an air conditioner; the neighbors would not hear or see the containers. DeLorean will decide if the PMLD property would be a good location.

- **Sterling Interconnection**- No new information.
- **2024 Budget** - The Board voted unanimously (3-0) to accept the 2024 PMLD budget.

Other Updates:

- Mr. McKeon would like to congratulate Jack Austin on his graduation from NEPPA.
- Compensation for solar customers will increase from 8.1 cents to 8.8 cents per kWh.
- All the new pole sets during the year have been transferred.
- A house in town was disconnected due to a fire.
- Two new homes in town were having issues with the Eaton breakers.
- Worcester Road tree trimming is complete.
- Completed tree service audits.
- PMLD hosted a senior luncheon. Approximately 42 residents attended, with two presentations from Commissioner Gott and Mr. McKeon.
- Christmas lights were hung on the Town Common.
- Line extensions on Beaman Road and Ball Hill Road are complete.
- The basement of PMLD has been prepared for a new 400-amp service.
- A new home on Old Brooks Station Road was energized.

Landfill Solar & Community Solar- The committee is reviewing the documentation to ensure the landfill site was closed correctly and capped.

Performance Review of the General Manager and Staff- In the Linemen's contract, everyone received a 2% pay increase. Some received a 2% raise and a parity adjustment, so their pay would be average. The Board voted (3-0) to award the staff a \$2500.00 bonus. The Board discussed Mr. McKeon's salary. After much discussion, the Board decided to raise Mr. McKeon's salary to \$184,000.

Facebook/Website:

No Information

New Business/Parking Lot:

Commissioner Chase asked the last time rates were raised. It's been seven years since the last rate increase.

Public Session:

No guests

At 5:02 p.m., the Board voted unanimously in favor (3-0) to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Mammone

Recording Secretary