

Rowley Municipal Lighting Plant



February 25, 2026, Commissioner's Meeting

6:00 PM – Remote Go to Meeting

Commissioners Present: Bryan DiPersia, Mark Cousins, Danby Whitmore. Also, in attendance was General Manager Matthew Brown and Office Manager Eric Grover.

Bryan DiPersia opened the meeting at 6:04 PM.

Citizen Query

There were no participants in this citizen's query.

MEAM meeting March 25th

Manager Matt Brown will provide the board with the agenda for the meeting. He said it should still be emailed out to the commissioners and if they don't receive it, to let him know.

Battery Storage

Manager Brown stated Groveland Electric Light had backed out of their battery storage project. In the scope of our project, Citizens found it wasn't cost effective between the tariffs and getting the equipment to build it. Commissioner Bryan DiPersia said record battery storage capacity was added in the US for 2025 (~57GWh) 75% of that added in Texas, California and Arizona. We just need to get a project like this in Rowley. It was mentioned that maybe we should look at a new possible provider and pivot from Citizens.

Managers Update

MLP Solar Update: There are 39 total residential systems now. There is one in the queue as of right now and one went online on February 9th when we read meters.

Construction Projects: The following is a breakdown of the work done:

Kittery Ave. – With the new wire energized, the line crew has started to cut over the new transformers.

Ongoing Projects: Chase Bank, Harborlights, and The New England Asian Restaurant all have either broken ground or is starting to complete work at their sites. It was stated by Matt that the Line Manager is working with Kirk on the Harborlight Homes and Chase Bank projects.

Substation Project: General Manager Matthew Brown stated the substation project is going well. On Friday February 20th, United Power Group and RMLP staff energized the new transformer and verified the phasing. UPG did three days of testing and verifying settings prior to this point. It was decided to change the existing load side to Bus URD high voltage cable as it was original to the substation. On the 22nd we did some switching and put load on the new transformer, feeder one and three. We wanted to get this complete before the blizzard came in and get the town back to two lines. There is still a lot of work to be done before completion, on Monday the 23rd there will be a meeting with PLM, Powerline and UPG to start phase two of the project. Anytime the commissioners would like to come down and visit the site, please let Brown know and a time can be arranged.

Conflict of Interest: All RMLP staff and commissioners have completed their conflict requirements for the year 2026. Thank you!

All Other Items Not Anticipated by The Chair

General Manager Matthew Brown recapped the 2026 blizzard we had and said the RMLP staff were pre-staged and worked moving snow at the building and the substation. Calls started to come at daybreak around 05:00 with the following calls:

- 239 Central Street. A large pine tree came down taking the service to the house.
- 67 Railroad Avenue. A tree had come down on the wires.
- Ellsworth Road. Two calls there, the first was a branch and the second was a large tree blowing the fuse.
- 294 Central Street. The result of the 239 Central Street call causing a transformer fault.

The town faired very well through the storm.

Executive Session if required.


There was no reason to go into an executive session for this meeting.

Adjournment

Danby Whitmore made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark Cousins seconded. All voted in favor at 6:32 PM with a roll call vote with everyone saying yes.

Minutes submitted by Eric R. Grover


Bryan DiPersia, Chair


Mark Cousins, Clerk


Danby Whitmore, Member