

Rowley Municipal Lighting Plant



March 11, 2026, Commissioner's Meeting

5:30 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 5:32 PM.

Citizen Query

There were no participants in this citizen's query.

Review and Accept Previous Minutes

After reading the minutes from the previous meeting session, January 28, 2026, provided, the corrections made by the board were edited prior to the meeting.

Mark Cousins made the motion to accept the regular minutes for January 28, 2026, with the corrections made. Danby Whitmore seconded the motion. The roll call vote was taken. Mark Cousins, "I," Bryan DiPersia, "I" and Danby Whitmore "I." Voted in at 5:33.

MEAM meeting March 25th

Manager Matt Brown will provide the board with the agenda for the meeting, and it will be held at Neppa in Littleton, Ma.

Battery Storage

Manager Brown stated the battery storage project is still at a standstill. There really isn't anything to report on from Steve Burns from Citizens Energy. Commissioner Danby Whitmore asked how the recently announced battery storage project in Everett was going and hoped it would help our cause out. It seems the smaller projects are being held in a holding pattern for now, which makes it harder but hopefully we will be able to get around these roadblocks.

Managers Update

MLP Solar Update: There are 39 total residential systems now. There is one more email for a new array.

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. Some of the old 5 KV wire has been taken down and old poles getting ready for communications to transfer.

Ongoing Projects: Chase Bank, Harborlights, and The New England Asian Restaurant all have either broken ground or are starting to perform work at their sites. There was a meeting today with Chase Bank to get the site rolling for electric.

Substation Project: General Manager Matthew Brown stated the substation project is going well. Phase two is going to be starting by Colonial Excavating where they will be starting a trench over to transformer two. Powerline will be running the underground conduit and start with the control wires. The pipe should start on Friday, and things should be buttoned up by April, weather permitting. Commissioner Bryan DiPersia asked if there were any issues from the February startup of the transformer, and Brown said everything was tested by a third-party company to make certain there weren't any problems. Anytime the commissioners would like to come down and visit the site, please let Brown know and a time can be arranged.

All Other Items Not Anticipated by The Chair

General Manager Matthew Brown stated the spring quarterly newsletter will be included with the invoices this month. Second, Brown wanted to bring the attention that we are going to a new billing payment and billing system. It is provided by the company named Invoice Cloud and the front office staff have been working on getting the process moving forward. With this new system, you will be able to opt in using the "at a glance" dashboard to receive paperless billing. This process is only to opt out of paper billing; you still will be able to receive a hard copy in the mail. In the dashboard, you will eventually be able to see monthly usage, payments, and view past and present invoices. You will be able to pay and receive text and email messages when invoices are ready and close to being due. Pay by phone, online, or text will be an option with several more payment options such as PayPal. Monthly ACH will go away, but ratepayers will be able to go into the dashboard and set up when it is convenient for them to pay their invoice. Most importantly, ratepayers will still have the option of coming into the office, using the mail system, and the drop box at the end of the walkway. This new billing option should be rolled out next month.

Executive Session if required.

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

Adjournment

Mark Cousins made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Danby Whitmore seconded. All voted in favor at 5:29 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