

# Rowley Municipal Lighting Plant



**August 8, 2018 Commissioner's Meeting**

**7:00 PM – Town Hall Selectman's Room**

Commissioners Present: G. Robert Merry, Robert Snow, Kevin Snow. Also in attendance was General Manager Daniel Folding, Office Manager Eric Grover

See attendance sheet for the public sign-in.

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G. Robert Merry opened the meeting at 7:00 PM

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## ***Citizen Query***

Nobody from the general public participated in this citizen's query.

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## ***Review and Approve Meeting Minutes***

After reading the minutes from the regular meeting of June 13 and July 11, 2018 provided, there were no corrections.

*Robert Snow made the motion to accept the regular minutes of June 13 and July 11, 2018. Kevin Snow seconded the motion. All voted in favor at 7:03 PM.*

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## ***Update on Rowley LLC Solar Project***

Manger Dan Folding gave the floor to the lawyer of the Rowley LLC Solar Project. He stated there was a special meeting being held tonight upstairs to iron out a few more of the problems still outstanding. This meeting will feature the conditions and permitting, and they were hopeful that was going to be resolved tonight. Once these few issues are settled, the group will have a better idea of dates and any other issues regarding the solar array. Folding asked if the RMLP could have a copy of the plans once approved by the two boards. The lawyer said RMLP and the planning board will be forwarded a copy.

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## ***RMLP EV Program***

Manger Dan Folding handed out a cost sheet of the program. [See attached sheet from Folding.] This program is just for full electric vehicles, not hybrids, and if an owner has a one now, it can be included in the program. A question from the audience was asked who supplies the charges? The answer would be the customer, a level two charger and that expense wouldn't be through the RMLP. Another question was are the chargers going to be used during "off peak" load hours and if the software could accommodate that feature. Kevin Snow asked if there would be a new rate for off peak charge and Folding said no, not right now. Sagewell mentions a \$50.00 rebate for the first six months but this must be looked into further. Kevin Snow brought up the question if maybe Energy New England could supply the level two

charger as an incentive to get people into the program. There are two kinds of chargers, level one which comes with your vehicle and it uses a 120-volt outlet. The level two charger is good for 6-8 hours and would be installed more efficient with the program. We will also have to plan a show and tell marketing event to get the word out into the community.

*Kevin Snow made the motion to adopt the EV program with Energy New England and Sagewell. Bob Snow seconded the motion. All voted in favor at 7:35 PM.*

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### ***Review of RMLP Net Metering Policy***

Manager Daniel Folding stated the net metering policy is drafted in with other municipalities light departments in the state. Folding read from page 5 A & B of the solar agreement. These sections spoke about how the credits are figured out for their monthly invoices. The rate of the RMLP is figured by the NE Massachusetts Load Zone average LNP from the dates used in the billing period. This wholesale cost has been in the range of 3 to 4 cents per kilowatt hour for energy sold back to the department. National Grid and Eversource give a full retail credit to their customers because they are regulated to and this is where a municipal differs from an investor owned. Folding stated part of the cost for maintenance to the distribution system. If the department gave penny for penny, then this charge would go away, and they wouldn't be contributing to the cost of keeping the system in repair. There were several questions from the audience on how the net metering policy worked and the how the it was structured and how it may change in the future.

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### ***Discuss participation in the 2019 Heat Smart Massachusetts Program***

Manager Folding opened the floor to Bryan Dipersia to explain the program. This program will be for all communities in Massachusetts after their pilot program is completed. The program is for air source or ground source geothermal systems such as heat pumps and modern wood stoves. There is a webinar on You Tube to watch which explains the program and how to get interested into buying and installing this equipment.

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### ***General Law Chapter 30A Section 21 [A] [2] for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel [Managers Contract]***

*Merry called for a motion to go into executive session for the purpose of negotiations for the general manager.*

*Robert Snow made a motion, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation with General Law Chapter 30A Section 21 [A] [2] for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel and to not convene in open session. All voted in favor 8:08 PM.*

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***Adjournment***

Adjournment was taken in the executive session portion of the meeting.

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Minutes submitted by Eric R. Grover

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G. Robert Merry, Chair

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Robert Snow, Member

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Kevin Snow, Clerk