

Rowley Municipal Lighting Plant



October 10, 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.

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

Citizen Query

There were a few comments made regarding the solar program and where the town should go. Ralph Williams asked about the Solar Agreement between the home owner and the department. He was looking to put in a system, but it be over the 10 KW. It was mentioned we have an agreement in which covers it and if he would like he could to talk to Manager Folding via email.

Phil Towne asked what the department was doing regarding long term power outages. The department trims and maintains their system very well with crew and contractors coming in on a three year cycle to trim. He asked if there was a way to harness power and store it in case of a weeklong outage. Right now the technology is there, it just isn't good enough for our needs yet. Bryan Dipersia mentioned there will be some battery storage grants on the state level pretty soon.

Review and Approve Meeting Minutes

After reading the minutes form the regular meeting of September 12, 2018 provided, there were no corrections.

Robert Snow made the motion to accept the regular minutes September 12, 2018. Kevin Snow seconded the motion. All voted in favor at 7:10 PM.

Tree Trimming Program

Manager Folding talked about how the department plans and goes fourth with the trimming of trees in the town. The department is currently putting together a bid for trimming in a few different zones in town. Each zone gets a three year trim to push back any growth and keep them at least ten feet back. Lately due to the sick trees around town, the highway department has taken an aggressive effort to take any hazards down concentrating mostly on Haverhill Street. There seems to be a few calls per week to the office about trees on private property and their concern is taking down their service. RMLP does go out and looks at each customers concern and determines what can be done if anything. It was mentioned maybe we could get together with the highway department and make it a joint action. Robert Snow

said Representative Brad Hill has been working on a plan for a better trimming of the right away for the highline section we had trouble with last year. Kevin snow asked if have ever split the cost of taking down a tree with a property owner. Folding said yes in the past this has happened.

Net Metering Policy Review

Manager Folding said there was a request for the department to look at changing and making the solar program more appealing toward the solar ratepayers. It was mentioned private companies like National Grid that are for profit, give a much better rate back to their customers. The RMLP goes by the month LMP cost of natural gas and the average for the year has been right around three to four cents. Not included in this cost is the cost of maintaining the lines or the cost of printing and sending out the monthly invoices. There will be some new changes in the SREC-2 program going to be rolled out in the near future which we will get more information when it comes. But for now, it doesn't look as though anything will be changing in the near future.

RMLP Arrears

Manager Folding explained the arrears is something around \$225,000.00 with being accounts over 150 days. Folding said they would be liening through the help of the assessor's office come December and that amount would go on their tax bill going out. There is a process to doing this and it is in the works now.

General Managers Job Advertisement

Manager Folding has come up with a draft for the manager's job advertisement. He thinks we should get this advertised as soon as possible and use an end date of October 9th. The board though it should be advertised in both the Neppa and APPA newsletters both of which are online resources.

Robert Snow made the motion to advertise the manager's job position. Kevin Snow seconded the motion. All voted in favor at 7:45 PM.

Adjournment

Robert Snow made the motion to adjourn. G. Robert Merry seconded. All voted in favor in favor at 7:46 PM.

Minutes submitted by Eric R. Grover

G. Robert Merry, Chair

Robert Snow, Member

Kevin Snow, Clerk