

Rowley Municipal Lighting Plant



April 10, 2019 Commissioner's Meeting

7:00 PM – Town Hall Selectman's Room

Commissioners Present: Robert Snow, Bryan Dipersia. Also, in attendance was General Manager Matthew Brown, Office Manager Eric Grover

See attendance sheet for the public sign-in.

Robert Snow opened the meeting at 7:00 PM

Citizen Query

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

Review and Approve Meeting Minutes

After reading the minutes from the regular meeting session from March 13, 2019 provided, there were no corrections.

Bryan Dipersia made the motion to accept the regular minutes from March 13, 2019. Robert Snow seconded the motion. Everyone voted in favor at 7:01 PM.

Rowley LLC Solar Update

Manager Matthew Brown gave a quick update on what was going on at the solar field. Mark Anderson went up and met with the contractors and found one last piece of work that had to be done before we could give an ok on the project. Right now, RMLP is all ready to go and "hit the switch" to liven up the solar field. Once all the permits are signed off, there should be no reason to liven it up.

Financial Report / Budget [Accountant Katie Tilton]

Manager Matthew Brown introduced Katie Tilton to the group who has been with the department for 12 years as our accountant. She gave a recap of the situation we are in and the reasoning for being in the negative and just backed up the same reason by former meetings. Both Brown and Tilton will be watching closely the upcoming months to make sure things don't get out of balance. One good thing is the town has required we pay a monthly portion of our health insurance rather than one large lump sum of \$130K in July. The depreciation has stayed the same with an adjustment in the future.

Robert Snow made a motion for a moratorium for the RMLP for the next month and at that time we will look and see where the financials stand. Bryan DiPersia seconded. All voted in favor at 7:12.

Kevin Snow Vacancy

Robert Snow read the resignation letter from Kevin Snow. It was discussed we should wait till there is a new board to go forward and fill the vacancy. In the meantime, Snow thought a joint meeting with the Board of Selectman should be put forward to get the process rolling.

Robert Snow made a motion to have Manager Matthew Brown draft a letter to the Board of Selectman for a joint meeting to pick a new commissioner to fill the vacancy. Bryan DiPersia seconded. All voted in favor at 7:18.

Sick Policy/Buyback Mark Bixby

Manager Matthew Brown explained the sick time buyback has been an ongoing issue through the municipalities of Massachusetts, and it has trickled down to policy changes. He said the RMLP follows the guidelines that the AG office put forth at the start of the year.

The policy in debate here is not the total of the sick time buyback, but just how it is calculated. Several people have retired here, and the policy has been they left at the rate of pay they retired at. This buyback was flagged by the treasure who just wanted to make sure the calculation was correct with what the policy is currently at. Both Robert Snow and Bryan DiPersia have seen a few calculations and understood how it should be figured out.

After much talking a decision was made to grant Mark Bixby the total sum of \$32,028.00 would be included in his next paycheck. It was suggested that the policy should be cleared up for future retirees so this won't happen in the future.

Adjournment

Robert Snow made the motion to adjourn. Bryan DiPersia seconded. All voted in favor in favor at 7:40 PM.

Minutes submitted by Eric R. Grover

Robert Snow, Chairman

Brian Dipersia, Member