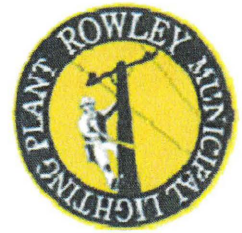


Rowley Municipal Lighting Plant



September 8, 2021 Commissioner's Meeting

5:00 PM – Remote GoTo Meeting

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

See attendance sheet for the public sign-in.

Danby Whitmore opened the meeting at 5:00 PM

Citizen Query

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

Review and Accept Previous Minutes

After reading the minutes from the previous meeting session, July 21, 2021, provided, the corrections made by the board were previously edited prior to the meeting.

Mark Cousins made the motion to accept the regular minutes from July 21, 2021, with the corrections made. Bryan DiPersia seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken. Mark Cousins, "I", Bryan DiPersia, "I" and Danby Whitmore "I". Voted in at 5:09.

2020 Financial Audit

Manager Brown shared with the board the manager's letter and the financials from the 2020 audit. There will be a change in next year's audit as Bill Fraher has combined with another firm. The big part of the audit was how collections were handled and to better rectify in the future. Over the last few months a big push of collections has been made to clean up customers' accounts. At the closing of 2021, our goal to get that number closer to where it should be from years past. Collections on customer accounts were difficult due to restrictions from the DPU because of COVID. Bryan DiPersia asked about some components of the report and stressed about segregation of duties. When the new person is hired, there will be more of a cross training to help with this suggestion.

GASB 74/75 Valuation

Manager Brown said we are looking good in this process. He said we are paying the health insurance every month rather than ahead of every year. He said this was a good way of doing it, causing a little more work, but easier in the future. Mark Cousins asked about the risk of not being funded? Manager Brown explained that it is a liability on the books, and a best practice was to fund this account as it accrues.

Office Staffing Update

Manager Brown brought the board up to date on the staffing for the front office position. He said it has advertised on the NEPPA website and posted at the town hall. So far there has been about a dozen applicants and interviews were going to start on the 13th of this month. There are a lot of qualified candidates, and we want to be very thorough in making our selection. Luckily, we have enlisted the help of a part time former Light Plant Office Manager (Karen Marchand) to assist until the void is filled. Karen has been a big help over the past few months.

NEPPA Annual Conference Summary

The annual conference was a success. They had some good speakers who spoke on a variety of subjects. Items included renewables, 2050 roadmap, reconstitution with questions and answers following. There is a link to the conference which Matt will get out to the board. The one topic that was of most interest was the hydrogen power presentation.

Managers Update

MLP Solar Update Continuation Plan: RMLP still needs to make an announcement for the scope of work from Energy New England. There is a 60c per kWh with a max of \$6000 with the department contributing. There haven't been any new installations in the que as of now as we currently have 30 arrays.

Construction Highlights: Falcon Ridge is still ongoing; we are setting poles on Summer Street as part of the conversion. There is also work being done on Nags Head Road and a cluster home project at 12 Main St. cluster housing. All the work on Main St. is being paid by the contractor. There are also talks about a Level 2 battery charger behind the town hall/library. Regarding the level 2 vs. level 3, there was a meeting on July 26th at 7:00 PM at the selectman's meeting to discuss the idea and see what the town wanted to do. They are looking into this right now and will review and respond back to the light department.

All Other Items Not Anticipated by The Chair

There was nothing to fill this item by the chair.

Executive Session under GLC 30A, Section 21 a Strategy for Negotiations with Non-Union Personal

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

Adjournment

Mark Cousins made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. Bryan DiPersia second all in favor with a roll call vote. Mark Cousins, "I", Bryan DiPersia, "I" and Danby Whitmore "I". Voted in at 6:00 PM.

Minutes submitted by Eric R. Grover



Danby Whitmore, Chair



Bryan DiPersia, Clerk



Mark Cousins, Member