Rowley Municipal Lighting Plant

March 16, 2022, Commissioner's Meeting



6:00 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.

Mark Cousins opened the meeting at 6:02 PM

Citizen Query

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

ENE [Energy New England] Power Supply Road Map Goals Presentation

Jesse Fitzmaurice gave a Power Point presentation on "RMLP – Road Map 2050" to the Board. It detailed Rowley's current carbon free resources, and potential contract extensions to work towards the new Roadmap goals. [Please see the presentation attached to the minutes]

Review and Accept Previous Minutes

After reading the minutes from the previous meeting, January 12, 2022, a vote was taken.

Mark Cousins made the motion to accept the regular minutes for January 12, 2022, with corrections made as noted. Bryan DiPersia seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken. Mark Cousins, "I," Bryan DiPersia, "I" and Danby Whitmore. Voted in at 6:44.

After reading the minutes from the previous meeting, February 16, 2022, a vote was taken.

Mark Cousins made the motion to accept the regular minutes for February 16, 2022, with corrections made as noted. Bryan DiPersia seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken. Mark Cousins, "I," Bryan DiPersia, "I" and Danby Whitmore. Voted in at 6:45.

Special Municipal Employees [Danby Whitmore]

Manager Brown just wanted to advise the board that the Rowley Board of Selectman approved the request to add the Light Commisioners as Special Municipal Employees at the February 28th selectboard meeting. The board was pleased to hear this news.

Pilot Payment FY 2023

Manger Brown presented a PILOT payment of \$20,956.40 to the Town of Rowley.

Mark Cousins made the motion to accept the FY 2023 Pilot Payment to the town in an amount of \$20,956.40 Bryan DiPersia seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken. Mark Cousins, "I," Bryan DiPersia, "I" and Danby Whitmore "I." Voted in at 6:51

Managers Update

<u>MLP Solar Program Update</u>: Currently, there are two residential solar customers in the que. ENE had some issues getting the portal setup for rebate processing. The portal is scheduled to be live on March 16th and they will work as fast as possible to get through the backlog.

Rebate Announcement Update: RMLP will be putting the following announcement on April and May's invoices:

Rowley, Ma-As part of its ongoing electrification efforts, Rowley Municipal Light Department is pleased to announce the launch of its new Electric Lawn Equipment Rebate Program. For cordless and corded lawn equipment, RMLP is offering attractive rebate options for a variety of all-electric, clean, gas-free outdoor power tools and lawn maintenance equipment. All -electric tools such as trimmers, leaf blowers, chainsaws, push, and riding mowers provide numerous benefits over gas version equivalents. Reducing carbon emissions, starting issues, noise pollution, and engine maintenance to name. For residential accounts/addresses only. Purchase(s) must be made within the rebate application year. **Visit rmlp.org saving tab for details**.

Town Hall/Library EV Charger Update: This grant came through. "The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection [MA DEP] is returning the fully executed Massachusetts Electric Vehicle Incentive Program [MA EVIP] Public Access Charging contract documents to the Town of Rowley Municipal Lighting Plant [Grantee] for your records. The Grantee has until September 8, 2022, to make the charging station[s] optional. If the Grantee needs an extension beyond this date, the Grantee should inform the MA DEP via email at least 7 days before the deadline"

<u>Collection</u>: Past 60-Dday overdue accounts have been flagged in the annual audit before Matt began working here [10+ years]. Covid-19 did not help as there was a pause on the RMLP's ability to perform shutoffs. At our worst we were at about \$200K, and we are currently about \$40K. This is comparable to other local MLP's similar in customer size. If you recall this was a top priority for us last year and Eric and Karen Marchand worked diligently and effectively to remedy this issue.

<u>RMLP Year End Report</u>: The Board has received a copy of the report as well as the 2021 Income & Comparative Balance Sheet that will be going in the annual town report.

All Other Items Not Anticipated by The Chair

There was nothing added in by the chair.

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

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

Mark Cousins made the motion to adjourn. Bryan DiPersia seconded. All voted in favor at 7:19 PM with a roll call vote with everyone saying yes.

Minutes submitted by Eric R. Grover

Danby Whitmore, Chair

Mark Cousins, Member

Bryan DiPersia, Clerk