

# WEST BOYLSTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

4 Crescent Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583

Telephone (508) 835-3681

Fax (508) 835-2952

## **Board of Light Commission, Regular Session Meeting Minutes, June 21, 2022**

**Present:** Board members, Winthrop Handy, Anthony Meola Jr, and Jim Pedone. GM Jonathan Fitch and Assistant GM Brian Allen.

**Agenda:** The Board approved the agenda without any changes or corrections.

**Meeting Minutes:** The Board reviewed and approved the attached meeting minutes from February 1, 2022, and March 1, 2022.

**Customer Issues:** The Board and GM discuss the following customer issues.

St. Pierre Chain: WBMLP will sponsor an Air Compressor Energy Audit

Mixer Field: WBMLP was asked to relocate the Senior Center service utility pole to make room for the new field. The Board approved paying for this work.

**MMWEC Pooled Loan:** GM Fitch gave the Board an update on MMWEC's pooled loan program. WBMLP is working with MWMEC to secure funding for a portion of the new garage project if it gets built. Municipal borrowing rate is still relatively low at approximately 3%.

**Clean Energy Fund:** GM Fitch informed the Board that MMWEC is creating a "Clean Energy Fund" for participating MLP's. Our customers could finance clean energy, energy storage, weatherization, and electrification projects at 0% interest. The loan repayment would be get added to a customer's monthly bill. MMWEC is requesting funding from EEA to cover at least the interest on the loans. This program would benefit our EJ Communities and we would explicitly market the program to the EJ Community first.

Commissioner Handy discussed trying to get additional clean energy from MWRA's Oakdale hydroelectricity plant in West Boylston and using parcel B along Paul X. Tivnan for an additional clean solar energy. GM Fitch will reach out MWRA again to see if they are willing to sell Oakdale hydro and if the Town is still considering a cemetery on parcel B.

**New Billing Software:** The Board, GM, and Assistant GM discussed purchasing a new billing software. This upgrade is necessary to prepare for AMI, new electricity rates, TOU billing, e-billing, and to bill multiple new services in the future.

**Union CBA:** GM provided the Board a brief update on the new three-year CBA. WBMLP negotiated a new (3) year CBA based on wage increases that primarily matches the average MLP wages in MA.

**Mass Save Rebates:** Eversource natural gas customers in West Boylston are still eligible for a Mass Save rebates and 0% interest loans to covert to ASHP's.

**29 Prospect Street Property:** Board and Assistant GM discussed WBMLP's RFP for construction. Sub-bids are due June 23, 2022. GC bids are due June 30, 2022.

**Load/Demand Management:** GM Fitch showed the Board the Tangent AMP online tool to visualize circuit load, main load, and our demand management.

**Battery Energy Storage System (BESS):** The Board discussed MMWEC's attached BESS presentation which analyzed various options to either; purchase, cost share benefits, or pay a monthly service fee for a 3MW/6MWh BESS installed at 225 Shrewsbury St. (3) BESS developers will visit site on 7/27 to review existing site conditions.

**Offshore Wind Projects:** GM Fitch told the Board that MMWEC is working on an offshore wind energy PPA from one of the winners of the State's third procurement of offshore wind that could be developed in 2027.

**Seabrook PPA/Hedge:** WBMLP could potentially acquire a PPA for firm nuclear energy with attributes from 2030 through 2049.

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:55pm.**

---

**Win Handy**

---

**Tony Meola**

---

**Jim Pedone**