

WEST BOYLSTON MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT

4 Crescent Street, West Boylston, Massachusetts 01583

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**Board of Light Commission, Regular Session Meeting Minutes, 5:00pm,
November 12, 2024,** 29 Prospect Street, 1st Floor Conference Room.

Present: Commissioner Meola and Commissioner Kingsley, WBMLP staff,
Jonathan Fitch, Brian Allen, and Chris Trudeau.

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

Meeting Minutes: The Board did not review or approve the meeting minutes from
May 7, 2024 and June 18, 2024.

Customer Issues: Did not discuss.

Fincom Mtg: GM Fitch will attend a meeting with Fincom at 6:45pm, November
14, 2024.

2024 Customer Liens: The Board and WBMLP staff discussed applying
approximately (20) customer liens for nonpayment of their electricity bills totaling
approximately \$36k.

2024 Financial Audit: Staff let the Board know that WBMLP's 2024 financial
audit starts November 20th.

New Development: The Board and staff discussed upcoming potential projects.

1. Century Dr: Potential for 7-9 commercial/industrial buildings
2. 235 West Boylston St: Potential for commercial & apartment space
3. Hartwell & Shrewsbury Street. Potential for 2-3 commercial bldgs.
4. 180 Beaman St: Multiple level II EV chargers at DCR parking lot

Police Department: Brian Allen requested the Board to consider funding a police
department request to install an electric service for lighting at the shooting range
on Laurel Street. The estimated cost is \$35k. The Board discussed the project and
approved funding as a donation to town.

New Forklift Snow Blower. The Board and WBMLP staff discussed replacing
our Clark 1996 forklift with a new skid-steer with forklift, bucket, and snow
blower attachments. The estimated cost is \$75k and would be paid from our fully
funded depreciation account. The Board discussed and approved this capital
purchase.

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Temp Generator Set Update: WBMLP updated the Board on this summer's generator rental. The rental resulted in an estimated \$86,108 in transmission and capacity cost savings.

Seabrook Refund: WBMLP staff let the Board know that it received a \$22,151.57 reimbursement from the US Department of Energy (DOE) related to the DOE settlement with the nuclear units to reimburse the ongoing costs of constructing and maintaining spent fuel facilities.

Municipal Fiber Network: WBMLP staff provided the Board with a project update. WBMLP ordered and is receiving all the fiber and associated equipment to interconnect the municipal buildings. Once received WBMLP will coordinate the fiber installation and headend equipment for each municipal building.

Large Building Energy Reporting: Board briefly discussed MA DOER proposal to mandate the reporting of large customer annual energy use and cost. Applies to large buildings over 20,000 sq-ft. DOER cites MGL Chapter 25A, Section 20 as enabling legislation, but it never mentions MLPs. It only requires "electric, gas and steam distribution company" to report. WBMLP submitted comments to DOER.

New Diesel Truck Sales Regulation: Board briefly discussed MassDEP regulation that goes into effect January 1, 2025 which gradually phases out the sale of diesel medium- and heavy-duty trucks in MA. Starting in 2025, manufacturers are required to sell zero-emission trucks as an increasing percentage of annual sales from 2025 to 2035. By 2035, zero-emission truck/chassis sales would need to be 55% of Class 2b – 3 truck sales, 75% of Class 4 – 8 straight truck sales, and 40% of truck tractor sales. Most of our utility vehicles are class 4-8 vehicles (14,000-33,000+ GVW).

MLPs believe our vehicles are exempt from 310 CMR 7.41 based on the definition of emergency motor vehicle (310 CMR 7.24: exempts any public or privately-owned motor vehicle used for the restoration or maintenance of electricity, gas, telephone, or other utilities essential to maintain public services during an emergency).

Off-Shore Wind: WBMLP staff let the Board know the 791MW New England Wind I proposal by Avangrid was selected in the Massachusetts offshore wind procurement RFP. Prices will be made public in early 2025. MMWEC negotiated

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an option to purchase up to 50MW for MLP members and the Board can consider this PPA in the future.

2025-2028 Energy and Transmission Budget: The Board and staff reviewed WBMLP's attached power and transmission budget for 2025 through 2028.

Clean Heat Standard: WBMLP staff provided the Board with a brief update on MLP discussions with MassDEP regarding the proposed Clean Heat Standard (CHS) applicable to all utilities, delivered fuel companies, and MLPs. MA MLPs do not believe MassDEP has the legislative authority to regulate MLPs under a CHS and are prepared to file a suit against MassDEP.

Battery Energy Storage System (BESS): WBMLP staff provided the Board with a project update for the 3MW/9MWh BESS project under construction.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45pm.

Tony Meola

James Kingsley