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**BOARD OF LIGHT COMMISSIONERS**  
**ZOOM PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES - AMENDED**  
**January 15, 2025**

**Action Items:**

None

The public meeting was called to order at 3:09 p.m.

**Present:** Commissioner- Rick Rys, General Manager- Sean McKeon, General Foreman- Chris Courville, Ashley Reddy and Karen Mammone

**Zoom:** Commissioner- Richard Chase and Brian Pellerin

**Late Arrival:** Commissioner- Phil Gott arrived at 3:36 p.m.

**Agenda:**

The Board unanimously (2-0) approved the agenda written on January 15, 2025, with the possible exception that the "Wachusett Advisory Committee Parking Issue" might be delayed.  
Commissioner Chase- aye

**Meeting Minutes:**

The Board voted unanimously approved (2-0) to accept the minutes for December 10, 2024, with a change as follows:

*The Board unanimously approved the agenda dated December 10, 2024, with a vote of 3-0, not 2-0.*

**General Manager's Report:**

**Current Bank Balances-**

The Board reviewed the bank account balances report dated January 15, 2025. A copy will be placed on file. All bills are paid in a timely manner.

**2024 Cashflow Budget Review-**

Mr. McKeon presented the board with a copy of the 2024 budget details dated January 14, 2025. A copy will be placed on file. The cash flow figures were for January-November 2024, with a target of 91.67%. Mr. McKeon stated that revenues were 98.70% and expenses were 89.99%.

**Update on Operations:**

- **MMWEC and Rates-**

Mr. McKeon spoke with Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) concerning PMLD's reserve fund; they didn't want to give advice on this subject. However, MMWEC estimated they would need an additional \$250,000 in the working capital account. This working capital account increase would be funded before the end of the NextEra contract.

- **MMWEC Battery Storage Project and Sterling Interconnect-**

Mr. McKeon spoke with the General Manager of the Holden Light Department, who mentioned that if the interconnection with Sterling does not work out, they might be interested in providing power to Princeton. The load growth study for Sterling is expected to be completed sometime this quarter. The General Manager of Sterling understands how vital this power supply is for Princeton. The battery project is also on hold until the study results are available.

- **Wachusett Advisory Committee Parking Issue-**

Commissioner Gott provided an update on the Wachusett parking issue. The board agreed to allocate \$8,000 to develop a parking lot or assist the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) with any other need for the funds. This allocation would fulfill our original agreement with the DCR made when the wind turbines were installed, which included provisions for the right-of-way road to access the turbines.

*Commissioner Gott would like to add the following: "The board agreed to allocate \$8,000 to develop a 6 to 8 car parking lot...". The board agreed to the added detail.*

**Other Issues:**

The board and Mr. McKeon discussed the Fair Labor Standard Act (FLSA) concerning overtime pay for employees on standby. PMLD was not compensating the employees correctly. This has been fixed, and the affected employees will receive the correct pay with a two-year lookback.

**MMWEC and ENE:**

Mr. McKeon will meet with Energy New England (ENE) on January 16 at 9 a.m. to discuss their pricing and customer offerings. Currently, there are no plans to move to ENE.

**Policy for Battery Storage:**

MMWEC will oversee PMLD's battery storage policy. Tesla has granted MMWEC access to its Powerwall technology through an Application Programming Interface (API). This connection enables MMWEC to discharge batteries during peak demand via NextZero's Connected Homes Program.

Commissioners Gott and Chase attended a webinar hosted by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) that discussed the hazards associated with lithium batteries, found in devices ranging from cell phones to electric vehicles and trucks.

MMWEC is also exploring grant opportunities for our connection project.

**Test Site for New Daikin HVAC:**

Commissioner Chase discussed the Global Cooling Prize, which is organized by the Rocky Mountain Institute and several other organizations. Daikin and Gree Electric won for their significantly more efficient cooling systems and improved humidity controls using mini-split technology.

**Updates on Facebook & Website:**

There are no reports this month.

**New Business/Parking Lot:**

- Commissioner Gott mentioned a Pest Management Seminar at the Princeton Library tonight.
- Commissioner Rys will be attending the Town Board meeting tomorrow.
- The next Board of Commissioners meeting will be held on Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Comments:**

None

At 4:49 p.m., the Board voted unanimously in favor (3-0) to adjourn the meeting.

*Respectfully Submitted, Karen Mammone, Recording Secretary*