

PRINCETON MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT
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**BOARD OF LIGHT COMMISSIONERS
ZOOM PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
April 10, 2025**

Action Items:

Mr. McKeon will check with Lightshift regarding the presentation to the Planning Board.
Mr. McKeon will check with Ayacht on the PMLD server security.
While working in town, the Line crew will look for any debris from PMLD left behind during storms.
Ms. Reddy will speak with Carol at MMWEC about the Wind Farm Debt.

The public meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

Present: (Commissioner- Rick Rys, Commissioner- Phil Gott, Commissioner- Richard Chase, General Manager- Sean McKeon, Adam Borbone (Goulet, Salvidio & Associates, PC), Heather Isaacs (Goulet, Salvidio & Associates, PC), Ashley Reddy, and Karen Mammone

Zoom: John Zimmatore (Advisory Committee) and Roger Brooks (Resident)

Agenda:

The Board unanimously approved (3-0) the April 10, 2025, agenda.

Presentation of 2024 Audit and DPU Report:

Heather Isaacs and Adam Borbone of Goulet, Salvidio & Associates, P.C. presented the board with copies of PMLD's year ending December 31, 2024, and 2023 Financial Statements and Department of Public Utilities (DPU) report. Ms. Isaacs reviewed the documents and pointed out critical financial figures to show PMLD's revenue, liabilities, and assets. For the last ten years, the auditors have issued a qualified opinion regarding PMLD's dealings with the Worcester County Retirement System due to differences in compliance dates. Specifically, the Worcester County Retirement System operates on a fiscal year, whereas PMLD follows a calendar year. It is a clean opinion, meaning numbers that can be controlled are materially correct. There are no internal control issues, which complement the staff. Copies of both pieces will be placed on file.

Meeting Minutes:

The Board voted unanimously (3-0) to approve the minutes for March 13, 2025.

General Manager's Report:

Current Bank Balances-

The Board reviewed the bank account balance report dated April 10, 2025. A copy will be placed on file. All bills are paid in a timely manner.

2025 Cashflow Budget Review-

Mr. McKeon presented the board with a copy of the 2025 budget details dated April 8, 2025. A copy will be placed on file. The cash flow figures were for January and February 2025, with a target of 16.67%. Mr. McKeon stated that revenues were 21.57% and expenses were 17.26%.

Update on Operations:

- **OIG Request for Information-**

Mr. McKeon received a phone call from the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) seeking information about the wind turbines. The OIG was looking for the assumptions made by PMLD when the turbines were installed, including assumptions regarding price, actual cost, and the amount of energy generated. Mr. McKeon spoke with both MMWEC and Templeton, as they are also wind turbine owners, and both received the same request. Almost all their questions were answered. The auditors are seeking additional information from their archived files on the audit they conducted of the project to hopefully answer the remaining questions.

- **MMWEC Battery Storage Project-(Delorean/Lightshift)**

Lightshift is moving forward with the National Grid and ISO study for connection through the Westminster substation, intended for the battery. The goal is to get the battery online. Mr. McKeon will confirm with Lightshift that they have already presented plans to the Planning Board.

- **Updates on Sterling or Holden Interconnect-**

No news has been received from Sterling concerning the interconnection. The General Manager of Holden, Mr. Tupper, presented an interconnection plan to Holden's Advisory Board, which had some questions but is overall in favor of the interconnection. Mr. Tupper's next step is to present the plan to the Select Board.

- **Review OT and IT Security & Backups-**

Ayacht Technology has been PMLD's security company for many years. Over the last couple of weeks, Ayacht has implemented new AI security features. Once a month, an IT specialist from Ayacht visits the office to check on the system. Each night, the server is backed up. McKeon will check with Ayacht on changing passwords.

Updates on Facebook & Website-

There are no reports this month.

New Business/Parking Lot-

Commissioner Gott mentioned April is Earth Month and would like to see any debris belonging to PMLD left from storms picked up. A town celebration will be held in May on the Princeton Common, thanking the volunteers who helped with the town clean-up.

Public Comments-

Mr. Brooks had some questions concerning the battery storage container. The unit will hold roughly two megawatts for four hours and will be placed on the back corner lot of PMLD.

Commissioner Chase has requested clarification on the Windfarm debt. Ms. Reddy will contact the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) to explore options regarding 2026 & 2027 payment for the Windfarm debt. The Board would like a plan for utilizing the additional funds. Various needs have been postponed due to the debt. Once the payments are completed, the bills will most likely remain the same, allowing PMLD to allocate additional money for these needs.

The next BOLC meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 13th, at PMLD from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. The meeting will be one hour due to the Town Meeting.

At 5:14 p.m., the Board voted unanimously in favor (3-0) to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Mammone

Recording Secretary