

Board of Light Commissioners

Public-Zoom Meeting

March 10, 2026

168 Worcester Rd, Princeton, MA

Action Items:

- Mr. McKeon will clarify the current wording on the residential solar 30 KW maximum.
- Commissioner Gott will add the following checklist items to the Town Hall paperwork: battery storage, balcony solar, and bi-directional meters. This will ensure that PMLD is aware of any resident installations.
- Mr. Austin will look into what type of solar panels are installed at Mountainside Bakery & Cafe.
- Mr. Austin will find information concerning the pole located at the possible site of the new Public Safety Building.

Present:

Rick Rys, Richard Chase, Phil Gott, Sean McKeon, Jack Austin, Ashley Reddy, and Karen Mammone

Zoom:

John Zimmatore

Meeting Called to Order at 3:03 PM

Commissioner Rys made a motion to call the meeting to order.

Commissioner Gott- 2nd

Commissioner Chase- aye

Review and Approve Agenda for Public Meeting

March 10, 2026

Commissioner Rys made a motion to accept the agenda.

Commissioner Gott- 2nd

Commissioner Chase-aye

The agenda was approved (3-0) as written.

Review and Approve Public Minutes February 17, 2026

Minutes approved (3-0) as written.

General Manager's Report:

- **Current Bank Balances**

The Board reviewed the bank account balance report dated March 10, 2026. A copy will be placed in the file. All bills are paid in a timely manner.

- **2026 Cashflow Budget Review**

Mr. McKeon presented the board with a copy of the 2026 budget details dated March 10, 2026. A copy will be placed on file. The cash flow figures for January 2026, with a target of 8.33%. Mr. McKeon stated that revenues were 8.82% and expenses were 8.22%.

Update on Operations:

Recent Activities/Maintenance/Planned Outages

Please refer to the attached sheet for highlights of completed and scheduled work from February 18, 2026, to March 10, 2026.

No outages were reported during the February 23, 2026, blizzard, largely due to the effectiveness of the annual tree trimming program—now maintained on a four-year cycle—as well as favorable snow conditions that minimized impact on the electrical system.

- **MMWEC/Lightshift Battery Storage Project**

Mr. Viadero from the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) visited PMLD yesterday. He stated that PMLD is still not part of a cluster group. The Attorney General's Office and the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities are now involved and are reviewing the entire study process and the cluster groups.

- **Holden Interconnect**

Mr. McKeon spoke with Mr. Tupper at the Northeast Public Power Association board meeting. Mr. Tupper said Energy of New England (ENE) was almost finished with the study. The findings should be ready in about two weeks.

Mr. McKeon is working with MMWEC on a 40101D grant that could provide up to \$3 million to help fund project infrastructure and reduce future wheeling charges.

- **Balcony Solar**

Mr. Austin's research found that the currently installed meters can only measure electricity consumption and cannot record reverse power flow. If a resident installs a balcony solar system, the existing meter will not accurately capture energy being sent back to the grid. In such cases, a bidirectional meter would be required to measure both consumption and generation accurately.

Commissioner Rys would like to clarify that if a resident installs a balcony solar system while using their current meter, they will be charged for any power exported back to the grid. The current meter is not capable of measuring reverse power flow.

To address this, Commissioner Gott will update the Town Hall permit process to include notification of batteries and balcony solar installations. This will ensure that PMLD is informed in advance and can install the appropriate bidirectional meter for accurate tracking

- **Review & Vote on Changes to the Interconnect Generation Policy**

Mr. McKeon and Mr. Austin would like to clarify the Interconnection Generation Policy to state that 30 kW is the maximum allowed for a residential property. Mr. McKeon will draft the proposed language, and the Commissioners will review and vote on the wording at the April meeting.

- **Municipal Solar Rate**

The Town of Princeton may move forward with plans to construct a new public safety building, which would include installing solar panels. The Commissioners and Mr. McKeon have begun discussing the possibility of establishing a solar rate for municipal customers within the town.

The Commissioners discussed the only commercial customer in town, Marketside Bakery. Mr. Austin will look into the type of solar installation, including the inverter used and whether the system exports energy.

At present, the rate for commercial and municipal customers is \$0.2515 per kWh. The municipal solar rate structure is still in the early discussion phase, and this topic will continue to be reviewed at future meetings.

Updates on Facebook & Website

No discussion on updates.

New Business/Parking Lot Items

During the meeting, the Commissioners and Mr. McKeon discussed a utility pole that serves a town-owned building, a resident, and a streetlight. The pole may need to be relocated; however, PMLD will wait for guidance from the demolition company. Mr. Austin will confirm whether the pole must be moved or can remain in its current location.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Commissioner Rys made a motion to adjourn the public session at 4:19 PM.

Commissioner Gott- 2nd

Commissioner Chase- aye

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Mammone

Recording Secretary