

Wendell Municipal Light Board (MLB) Meeting

Tuesday, June 4, 2024 6:30 pm

Minutes

Present: MLBoard - Robert Heller, Laurie DiDonato, Lou Leelyn; MLP Manager - Ray DiDonato.

Meeting called to order 6:34 pm

Minutes - Approval of May 7th minutes. Laurie made a motion to approve. Robert seconds. Motion passed.

MLP Manager Report-

- Changes to RRR cost-sharing agreement with New Salem were accepted - both Selectboards have signed. June 11th there will be a short outage when the work is done. We need to let Whip city know about which accounts have static IPs so Glenn and Entre have been contacted.
- We received a bill from Alarm works for \$400 for annual testing of fire alarms.
- Power Guaranteed said they would do the maintenance of the generator at the next Preventative Maintenance appointment, but Ray might push back to have it done sooner.
- Budget - Treasurer and accountant said we should establish a reserve instead of a second stabilization fund, so the budget was amended to add retained earnings as a source of income and a budget line was added for a reserve that contains these retained earnings. With a reserve we can transfer money anytime without having to go to Town Meeting.
- This is a good time to pay off more principal as we are going into long-term debt in FY26, so we could plan to pay off more principal next year. Once we go into long term debt, we can't pay off extra principal. Payoff term can be 10 or 15 years.
- In the past Ray has made a handout for Town Meeting about estimated payments etc. He would like to not to do this but instead will present this info to SB after the end of the fiscal year.
- Should be getting CAF2 funds anytime- 3 years worth. Next year we will get approximately \$85K.

ACP issue

Email from Whip City notified us of the admin cost they will charge for handling the ACP subsidy. The Board feels we can absorb the cost and it is reasonable. We're ok to move forward.

Operations- 365 bills went out in May. No arrearages. New accounts are seasonal reactivations.

Newsletter deadline is June 15th - it was agreed to not include ACP info, but to include some info on the RRR project. Robert will write a submission for this.

Other news:

- Warwick got high speed internet through Spectrum using funding for rural towns from the State.
- Domenic Poli reached out about the elected Board article. There may be a write-up in the Recorder.
- Ray will put in Carolyn's payroll for her work for the year.

Next meeting- July 9th 6:30pm

Adjourned 7:11pm