

Wendell Municipal Light Board (MLB) Meeting

Tuesday, June 17, 2025 6:30 pm

Minutes

Present: MLBoard - Robert Heller, Laurie DiDonato; MLP Manager - Ray DiDonato. MLP Associate Manager Renee Lazaras

Meeting called to order 6:36 pm

Minutes - Approval of May 20th minutes. Laurie made a motion to approve. Robert seconds. Motion passed.

For Manager Transition:

- Carolyn provides monthly reports on income and expenses. We can request any changes.
- Laurie provided Renee the national Grid acct # (7/4 update: Renee has access to NG account)
- Renee now has a key for Town offices and printer access. Renee does not need to be sworn in.
- Ray needs to make sure emails are going to Renee or MLP. (7/4 update: Renee and Ray have met on bill specifics)

Low Income Subsidy:

- There was no significant reduction in subscriber numbers or rise in delinquency when subsidy ran out.
- Whip City is now able to manage this. They will charge a \$500 one time fee and \$250 annual fee to manage it. Town can provide names of accounts they want to receive subsidies - the list needs to be updated every year.
- Towns are using Lifeline to determine eligible customers. Lifeline is a good resource for income verification. Whip city has this list. <https://www.fcc.gov/lifeline-consumers>.
- It was agreed to see what our retained earnings are at the end of FY25 to decide if we can do it; by July board meeting, we will be in a better position to make a decision moving forward with subsidy.
- Hilltown CDC (community development corporation) is also a good resource for verification. Robert will get some more info on this.
- In the past it was a \$30 credit and we had about 30 people on it so the cost came to \$12-14,000 a year.

Tree Issue - Farley Road:

- Whip City came out and did not see any trees endangering line; subscriber will otherwise deal with trees
- For the spring ride-out nothing was mentioned about trees.

Managers Report:

- The budget passed at the Town Meeting.

- \$500 payment to be made to Carolyn.
- Any bill that comes after 7/15 for services before 6/30 will need encumbrance.
- Situation in Rowe - MLP manager got into trouble when subscriber emails were used for campaigns for an SB member. Customer phone numbers and emails are confidential. We should draft a policy. Renee is drafting a confidentiality policy re data usage.

Operations- No major fluctuations in subscriber data.

Next meeting- July 29th - 6:30pm - zoom

Adjourned 7:25pm

