

Wendell Municipal Light Plant (MLP) Board Meeting

Tuesday, November 7, 2023 6:30 pm

Minutes

Present: MLP Board - Robert Heller, Laurie DiDonato, Lou Leelyn, Absent: MLP Manager - Ray DiDonato.

Meeting called to order 6:32 pm

Minutes - Approval of Oct 10th minutes. Lou makes a motion to approve. Laurie seconds - Robert abstains. Motion passed.

Can solar credits pay for the internet? Carolyn was able to confirm this isn't allowed for towns or MLP plants.

MLP Manager report: Ray was not in attendance but emailed updates to the Board.

- National Grid pole rental for the upcoming year received and placed on this week's warrant, \$17K for the year.
- CAF-II funds will be released in Spring, if legislation passes it will be available right away, otherwise it will need to be certified first. The first payment will be an allocation of 2020-2023 three years worth of funds. Ray is working with the accountant to have an account set up to house the funds.
- Minor preventative maintenance and service was identified for generator.
- National Grid continues to replace poles along Lockes Village Road. - They are putting 3-phase down Lockes Village to hook up in Shutesbury for redundancy purposes.
- Smartphone apps - Laurie will write out instructions before the next meeting.
- October financials were reviewed. The books show that there is \$378,512.27 in the bank, most of which is from past years retained earnings that can't be accessed. 92K is our depreciation stabilization fund.
- What is Wendell doing about Digital Equity? We have teamed up with FRCOG to address this.

Operations:

363 bills went out in October. How many viable households are there? Lou will check to see, so we can have a number for the percentage of the town covered. One new account was activated on Oct 10th.

Account at 83 West Street is asking to waive two reconnect fees. Laurie made a motion to waive reconnect fees of up to \$60 at 83 West Street due to unanticipated circumstances with the understanding that this is a one time thing. Robert seconded, all voted in favor.

Laurie will ask Ray to tell Whip City to waive the fees.

Next meeting time - Dec 5th, 6:30pm on Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12pm