

2017-08-16  
STERLING MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT  
REGULAR SESSION  
MEETING MINUTES

DATE: August 16, 2017

LOCATION: SMLD Building  
Rear Board Room  
50 Main Street  
Sterling, MA 01564

BOARD MEMBERS: Matthew Stelmach (Stelmach), Chairman  
Joseph Curtin Curtin) Vice Chairman  
Brian Pierce (Pierce), Clerk

SMLD STAFF: Sean Hamilton (Hamilton), Manager

MINUTES: Jane Brunetta (Brunetta)

ATTENDEE: Richard Lane, Liaison  
Board of Selectman

5:00 p.m. Meeting called to order, Chairman Stelmach stated that the meeting is subject to audio recording **Roll Call Attendance, Stelmach present, Curtin present, Pierce present**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board members and attendance pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Curtin made a motion to approval agenda as written, Pierce seconded, no discussion, all in favor

MANAGER'S REPORT

Video for Storage Energy be released in both Las Vegas and Boston on September 11<sup>th</sup> , Hamilton said the video is fantastic, extremely well done, and we can release it to public right after the showing ,also , SMLD is number 1 in the country for storage watts per customer.

1. Berkshire tour is scheduled for September 6,2017
2. Camera and key locks to be in installed in September 1, 2017
3. Hamilton updated the Board of what is happening with Greenhouse Gas, but stated that Municipals are exempt at this time for meeting the new emissions rates. Hamilton stated that the regulations will cripple the gas fired generators in the state if this is implemented.

4. Hamilton explained why lights were on the warrant for the Senior Center Lights for that kept going out . Hamilton said they are getting prices on LED replacement, right now they are \$11.00, but Board members said that they can be bought for \$1.00 – Hamilton will look into where they can be bought for \$1.00. Hamilton said no commitment was given in paying for the replacements.
5. Hamilton stated a tank was found in the ground located by the back door of the garage. Hamilton called Greg Aubin to see what exactly is there, will keep members posted.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- a. Battery Storage Project Update – Hamilton presented the members with a chart detailing capacity reduction. Hamilton explained cost to charge the battery and cost of discharging the battery. Hamilton said savings to date is \$339,141.93, and they do expect to reach the stated estimate of \$400,000.
- b. CCERI Reimbursement-Hamilton presented the total cost to SMLD for the Battery Storage Unit. And the upgrades to the substation relay panels at the substation including the 5 year extended warranty, the cost was \$3,491,010.46 , the project cost was \$2,520,000– SMLD commitment - \$809, 696.15- CCERI Commitment (Grant) \$1,460,303.85.and \$250,000 for DOE, SMLD original budget was for \$2.9 million, Hamilton stated that money allocated will be recouped in savings because of the Battery Storage Unit.
- c. Southgate Update – Hamilton was approached on June 5, 2017 by the developer of Southgate to see if they could bring power into Leominster, Ma – right on town line for Sterling, Ma. Contract was signed July 5, 2017, cable ordered, just energized it yesterday, 15 days ahead of schedule. Hamilton said crew pulled in whole sub-division, Registry of Motor Vehicles, plus another 13 Commercial sites who will be rate payers paying into SMLD. Hamilton said he expects to hear from the Governor’s office, thanking them for the great service SMLD provided.

#### NEW BUSINESS

- a. Fiber – Hamilton said they have fiber from SMLD to substation, looking into including radio, solar, etc. Hamilton contacted Joanne Hovis , CEO, CTC Technology, who will send a proposal as to how to how fiber can be connected to all Departments.

#### APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES

1. June 29, 2017 – Regular Session – Curtin made a motion to approve minutes of June 29, 2017 regular session as amended, Pierce seconded, no discussion, **Pierce aye, Stelmach, Pierce aye, all in favor**
2. June 29, 2017 – Executive Session – Curtin made a motion to approve minutes of June 29, 2017, Executive Session, but not to be released, Pierce seconded, no discussion , **Roll Call Vote, Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Stelmach aye, all in favor**
3. July 26, 2017 – Regular Session – Pierce made a motion to approve minutes of July 26, 2017 Regular Session as amended, Curtin seconded, no discussion, **Pierce aye, Curtin aye, Stelmach aye, no discussion, all in favor**  
July 26, 2017 Executive Session – Curtin made a motion to approve minutes of July 26, 2017 Executive Session as written, but not to be released, Pierce seconded, no discussion, **Roll Call Vote, Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Stelmach aye, all in favor**

#### CUSTOMER COMMENTS

Richard Lane noted that he wished he could come to more meetings. Stelmach asked if Lane could maybe mention how much the SMLD does for the town, it would be appreciated.

Richard Lane would love to have Board Members come to a Selectman Meeting and maybe show the video of The Battery Storage Unit, and update residents about the savings that the Energy Committee contributed to the Town.

Hamilton noted that the Electric Car Program, from Nissan, was a success, 15 residents tried the Nissan Leaf, and 4 residents purchased.

6:00 p.m. – Curtin made a motion to go into Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A: Section 21(a), Clause 10 (to Discuss Trade Secrets or Confidential, Competitively-Sensitive or Other Proprietary Information Provided in the Course of Activities Conducted by a Governmental Body as an Energy Supplier) Community Solar Program, and Carbolon only to return to open session to adjourned, Pierce Seconded, no discussion, **Roll Call Vote, Stelmach aye, Pierce aye, Curtin aye, all in favor**

6:30 p.m. – Meeting adjourned

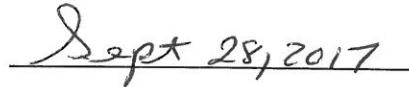
ATTACHMENTS:

1. Agenda

ATTEST:

  
Brian Pierce, Clerk

DATE:



Board Approval and Release

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