

2018-07-17  
STERLING MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT  
REGULAR SESSION  
MEETING MINUTES

DATE: July 17, 2018

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

BOARD MEMBERS: Joseph Curtin (Curtin), Chairman  
Brian Pierce (Pierce), Vice Chairman  
Eric Darlington (Darlington) Clerk

SMLD STAFF: Sean Hamilton (Hamilton), Manager

MINUTES: Jane Brunetta (Brunetta)

Attendee: Jeff Quiqley  
Virtual Peaker

5:15 p.m. Meeting called to order, Chairman Curtin stated that the meeting is subject to audio recording and broadcast. **Roll Call Attendance, Curtin present, Pierce present, Darlington 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 delete items 4b and 4d and add minutes of June 14, 2018 Regular Session Minutes to the agenda, Pierce seconded, no discussion, Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye, all in favor**

Board Members agreed to move New Business 5b -Virtual Peaker Presentation before Manager's Report  
Jeff Quiqley from Virtual Peaker presented a very detailed outline of how his company can provide energy savings for residents during peak hours by curtailing use of appliances like hot water heaters, etc. All Members agreed that this is the way of the future and requested the Manager to proceed with gathering all information including cost. Hamilton will report his findings at the next meeting.

## MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Hamilton stated that he will be going to the IPeer review conference it is a requirement of the \$250,000 grant we received from DOE and Sandia to attend the IPeer review on Energy Storage each year for 3 years, this is the third year. Hamilton will be going 9/24-9/28 to Santa Fe, New Mexico – DOE also sent a check for \$23,000 and to date we received to \$238,000 with a balance owed from the grant from DOE of only \$12,000
2. Battery Operation – on 7/5/18 had a capacity savings of \$277,000 from the batteries, so if this is the peak hour for the year, savings to date will be at \$787,724, total cost was \$750,000, payback only took 19 months
3. Audit Report – will have for next month meeting
4. Green Jacket s– equipment in for the substation, will begin this week
5. Princeton Road – stripping cracked wires, 17 sections to be replaced
6. Meetinghouse Article was on front page – Hamilton felt they did a good job

## 4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Community Solar Project Subscriber – 160 residents have signed up for solar
- b. Booth Associations – deleted
- c. Grant Reimbursement - nothing to report
- d. CTC fiber – deleted

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. APPA Annual Conference – E.F. Scattergood Award – 2,000 attended, did a great job with presentation, picture was on stage when we received the award – Hamilton updated members of all the new programs that were presented – Hamilton feels all members should attend, very informative
- b. Virtual Peaker Presentation – completed
- c. Solar Cap Discussion – Hamilton presented members with SMLD Solar Co-Generation Service brochure, he feels that Battery should be included – Hamilton highlighted a paragraph that should be included, and also added the Net Meter Policy to be updated. On Net Metering Hamilton feels that the Residential and Commercial solar should be combined to not exceed 450 kilo-watts. Members took information for review and will discuss at a future meeting. Hamilton said he would present a break down the information.
- d. Depreciation Transfer – **Curtin made a motion to transfer \$474,844.53 from Depreciation Account to Operations Account , Pierce seconded, no discussion, Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye, all in favor**
- e. LED Private Lights and Rates – Hamilton stated right now we have 7 different types of lights, we would like to go down to 3 LED only – going to 37 and 85 watts - these are flood lights - pay back is incredible - some lights are private – we now charge \$23 a month for HPS and Mercury Vapor, including all our cost the new rate would be is only \$13.89 – Hamilton just can't see why charge more - Hamilton will do more research and present findings to members, and find out how many of the 189 are privately owned or used by the town.
- f. Berkshire II Project – Going forward – PPA signed
- g. 2 Leominster Road HVAC – Hamilton said when the heating system was replaced, they found tanks were too close to windows, so the window air conditioners were removed, which was done in the winter months, was not caught until summer, when it was realized there was no air

conditioning. Three estimates came in – Hall came in at \$18,000, Whitney Oil at \$5200, Spadafore came in at \$8400 - Whitney will install the air-conditioning

6. APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES – June 14, 2018 - **Curtin made a motion to approve June 14, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended, Pierce seconded, no discussion, Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye, all in favor**

7. CUSTOMER COMMENTS

Curtin commented that a resident approached him, stating what a great job SMLD is doing

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND SCHEDULE NEXT BOARD MEETING

1. LED
2. Solar
3. Net Metering
4. Booth
5. CTC

Next Meeting – August 7, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

**7:15 p.m. Darlington made a motion to go into Executive Session (1) 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 – Hydro Contracts only to return to open session to adjourn, Roll Call Vote, Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye, all in favor**

7:25 p.m. – Meeting Adjourned

ATTEST:



Eric Darlington, Clerk

DATE:

8/14/18

BOARD APPROVAL AND RELEASE:

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