

2018-11-08
STERLING MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT
REGULAR SESSION
MEETING MINUTES

DATE: November 8, 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

Christine Aresenault (Arsenault) Staff Accountant

5:00 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 in attendance pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Pierce made a motion to move item 5a under New Business before Manager's Report, Darlington seconded, no discussion, Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye

2019 BUDGET PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

Hamilton presented board members a draft of the 2019 Operations and Capital Budget. Hamilton and Arsenault gave explanations of line items, total proposed budget is up 4.55% over 2018 mostly due to power supply cost, software support and capital improvements.

MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Hamilton said the Carbolon contract is in place until December 2019
2. Hamilton invited MMWEC to attend a future meeting to discuss the operation of the temporary peaker plant.
3. Massachusetts Citizens Awareness Network (MCAN) will publish a report in the paper noting how MLPs use renewables in their power portfolios, they have visited the battery project in Sterling.
4. Hamilton presented a report on the Massachusetts rate comparisons. Noting that National Grid implemented a 16% increase effective November 1, 2018. Sterling ranks 9th lowest of the 25 Publicly owned energy providers.
5. The Boy Scouts held a can drive over the weekend, Hamilton stated he was happy to provide the location, Board members agreed it was a good show of community support.
6. SMLD received a letter from the city of Tallahassee, FL thanking us for Mutual Aid support. Hamilton stated that FEMA pays for the hours worked. Curtin suggested taking FEMA payments and applying them to an account designated for vehicle replacement.
7. The backhoe was repaired, fixed leaking hoses and bushings, works great.
8. Hamilton asked for input on spraying the underside of the trucks to protect against decay from road salt. Suggestion was made by mechanic.
9. AMI Update – It took 40 man hours to do the meter readings in October, 97 meters needed to be replaced.

Old Business

- a. Community Solar Project Subscriber – Update – As of today there are 393 subscribers.
- b. Fiber Revenue Study-Update – Quotes for Revenue Analysis - CTC provided a quote for \$9,900 to complete a study, Fijitsu provided a quote for \$10,000, waiting for third vendor to provide report.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. 2019 Budget Presentation and discussion – Moved above Manager's Report
- b. Energy Storage Benefit update – Hamilton stated current YTD benefit \$875,499, not including October.
- c. 5 Year Plan – Hamilton presented members a copy of the 5 Year Business Plan to review for discussion at next meeting.

APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES – November 1, , 2018

1. Curtin requested to table the approval until the next board meeting.

CUSTOMER COMMENTS

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. 5 year plan
2. CTC Fiber

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)-Peaking Plant alternative, only to return to regular session to adjourn, Pierce seconded, no discussion, Roll Call Vote, Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye, all in favor

6:25 P.M. Meeting Adjourned

Attachment

1. Amended Agenda

ATTEST:



Eric Darlington, Clerk

DATE:

12-27-18

BOARD APPROVAL AND RELEASE:
