

2019-10-03  
STERLING MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT  
REGULAR SESSION  
MEETING MINUTES

DATE: October 3, 2019

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: Matt Stelmach

5:00 p.m. Meeting called to order, Chairman Curtin stated that the meeting is subject to audio recording - **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 approve agenda as written**, Darlington seconded, no discussion, Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye, all in favor

MANAGERS REPORT

1. Hamilton said he met with Stash Energy concerning Sholan Terrace. New Mini-Splits can be shut off for 4 hours, for both heating and cooling. Hamilton said the estimated savings for Sholan project would be about \$30,000 year, with startup cost of \$125,000. Hamilton will follow up with board members when all numbers and information is received.
2. Yahoo thanked SMLD for the use of our yard last fall. Also, Senior Center sent a nice thank you for the electric car
3. Hamilton gave board members information about ribbon cutting ceremony at Berkshire Wind – Phase 2

4. Mueller – Meter Reading – Mueller is currently being sued by Frankfort, NY for their failure rate, also a pending class action lawsuit for false statements. Hamilton said we are going forward with an AMI Request For Proposals (RFP) to get ideas on the cost.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Fiber Project- all designed, ready to go, however fiber won't be here until November 29, 2019- Also, Altec dropped off two demo trucks for us to use- Met with SELCO and Sterling Town Administrator to explain exactly what everyone will be getting for service
- b. Northgate HVAC Updates – Still in discussion, they are now planning on installing mini-splits in all units. Also they would like to meet to discuss lighting and potential rebates
- c. Virtual Peaker –MMWEC received a \$75,000 DOR grant and are ready to go, Virtual Peaker may also be possible for Northgate
- d. 2 Leominster Road Update – Hamilton stated project started September 9, 2019 – DEP came and were concerned about asbestos in the roof, testing had already been performed that morning after roof was removed the material came back positive. There was no exposure, the material was secured and covered and will be removed from site by professional asbestos abatement contractor. Project is on schedule and on budget
- e. AMI RFP – Meeting with Kevin Kelly of Groton. We are comparing two RFPs, one from Templeton and one from Littleton, to come up with the best way to go forward for Sterling for an AMI project. We are going to meet with Jackie Lemmerhirt, an expert in RFP reports, cost of \$7,500, which will be split between Groton and SMLD. Hamilton will bring RFP proposal to board members when completed.
- f. Board Policies - Tabled till next meeting
- g. Chocksett Substation Wave Trap – National Grid still working, we do have an SMLD employee there every day for oversight, which will be billed to National Grid

#### NEW BUSINESS

- a. Main Street Tank Removal – Hamilton said he noticed a pipe sticking out, so he had Aubin look into it, he got a permit and removed the tank, which was filled with oil, no leakage, oil was removed, tank was cleaned and removed by Kleen Tank of Fitchburg.
- b. 2020 Budget – Date set for October 24, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. for review

#### APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES – September 5, 2019

September 5, 2019 Regular Minutes – **Pierce made a motion to approve September 5, 2019 Regular Session minutes as written**, Darlington seconded, no discussion, Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye, all in favor

September 5, 2019 Executive Minutes – **Pierce made a motion to approve September 5, 2019 Executive Session Minutes as written and approve for release**, Darlington seconded, no discussion, **Roll Call Vote – Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye, all in favor**

#### CUSTOMER COMMENTS – NONE

#### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND SCHEDULE NEXT BOARD MEETING

1. Budget Meeting – October 24, 2019

6:00 p.m. Darlington 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)-Peaking Plant alternative update, PPS Proposal –only to return to regular session to adjourn, Pierce seconded, no discussion, Roll Call Vote – Curtin aye, Pierce aye, Darlington aye, all in favor

6:20 p.m. – Meeting Adjourned

ATTEST:



Eric Darlington, Clerk

DATE:

10/24/2019

BOARD APPROVAL AND RELEASE

10/24/2019