

**MINUTES OF THE
MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD
February 24, 2020**

PURSUANT TO notice given, the Wellesley Municipal Light Board (“Board”) met in the Municipal Light Plant (“MLP”) Gordon F. Kingsley Board Room, 4 Municipal Way, at 5:30 PM.

PRESENT

Those Commissioners present included Chair Paul L. Criswell, Ellen L. Korpi, Thomas Skelly, Edward J. Stewart, III and Jeffrey P. Wechsler. Staff in attendance were, MLP Director Donald H. Newell, Kevin Bracken, Ann Collins, Terry Connolly, Cynthia Lowe, William Marsh, Janet Maynard, Steve Neshe, Joanne M. Scannell and Daniel J. Trant. Residents in attendance were Scott Bender, Jim Gorman, and Phyllis Theermann..

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion made by Ms. Korpi, and seconded by Mr. Wechsler it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the January 27, 2020 Public Session Minutes as presented.

Upon a motion made by Ms. Korpi, and seconded by Mr. Wechsler it was unanimously

VOTED: To approve the January 27, 2020 Executive Session Minutes as presented.

CITIZEN SPEAK

The Chair presented all of those in attendance with the opportunity to speak on matters of interest with respect to the MLP. No citizens spoke.

DIRECTOR’S ITEMS

Citizen’s Petition Presentation. Jim Gorman presented information and answered questions on the revised Citizen’s Petition Warrant Article. Following this presentation the Commissioners deliberated on the appropriate Municipal Light Board (“MLB”) response. It was decided that the MLB would issue a public statement regarding the Citizen’s Petition.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Wechsler, and seconded by Ms. Korpi it was unanimously

VOTED: To issue the following public statement. "The WMLP shares with the proponents of the Citizen's Petition the desire to further accelerate our efforts to lower carbon emissions in Wellesley. We are currently reviewing our Voluntary Renewable Energy Program ("VREP") and we are considering broadening its mandate to include various new programs that reduce emissions. We intend to look at issues such as promotion of energy efficiency, beneficial electrification, peak demand reduction and virtual power purchase agreements. There are a variety of ways to financially support additional programs, one of which is an Opt Out VREP program.

The WMLP commits to its ratepayers that before it adopts an Opt Out VREP program and before it collects and spends any additional ratepayer money via a VREP program, we will satisfy ourselves that each expenditure is an effective and efficient way to cause a reduction in carbon emissions.

The WMLP welcomes the opportunity to hear from Town Meeting as to whether an Opt Out VREP program should be one source of funds for us to consider as we continue to develop our sustainability programs."

Financial Statements. The Director referred to Page 3, Fiscal Year 2020 year-to-date Comparative Balance Sheet for the month of December and noted two items that stand out. The Total Cash and Equivalents remaining steady month over month at \$5,055,860 and the significant increase in Other Current Assets to \$1,531,564, up \$206,075 from December of 2018. This increase was driven by increases in deposits at Energy New England.

Mr. Newell referred to page 9, Primary Service KWH Sales and noted the addition of the Wellesley Sports Center as a Primary Service customer.

900 Worcester Street Roof Lease. The Director referred to a report prepared by staff and a copy of a Sublease and Grant of Licenses agreement, both attached herewith, presenting details of a tentative agreement negotiated between WMLP and the Wellesley Sports Center. After a review of the benefits to WMLP, Mr. Newell recommended that the Board authorize him to enter into this agreement.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Wechsler and seconded by Ms. Korpi, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board authorize the Director to execute the Sublease and Grant of Licenses as presented.

Needham Street Light Maintenance Agreement. The Director referred to a report prepared by staff and a copy of a Town of Needham Municipal Streetlight Operations and Maintenance Agreement, both attached herewith, presenting details of the tentative agreement negotiated between WMLP and the Town of Needham. After a review of the benefits to WMLP, Mr. Newell recommended that the Board authorize him to enter into this agreement.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Wechsler and seconded by Ms. Korpi, it was unanimously

VOTED: That the Board authorize the Director to execute the Town of Needham Municipal Streetlight Operations and Maintenance Agreement as presented.

EV Program Update. Mr. Connolly updated the Board on the EV Awareness Program working with Sustainable Energy Committee Transportation Working Group.

Working Groups. The Director updated the Board regarding the VREP Working Group. Those serving on this working group include Ellen Korpi, Jack Stewart, Donald Newell, Joanne Scannell, Terry Connolly, Scott Bender and Laura Olton.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board Meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey P. Wechsler, Secretary