

Chester Municipal Electric Light Department

15 Middlefield Road, Chester, MA 01011

**Commissioner's Meeting**

March 21, 2017

Present: Commissioners: Terry Murphy and Deryck Savoy  
Guest: Gene Watters  
Manager: Jill Moretz

Meeting was called to order 7:07 pm

- The minutes of the February 28, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Motion was made by Deryck to accept the minutes as written. Terry seconded, all in favor, motion passed.
- Deryck updated us on the ballfield. The Youth Sports Association will be purchasing new benches and a new shed. We would like to pay in advance for the dirt so when Highway arrives to pick up it up there will be no issues. Jill will call Sheffield Pottery and ask for an invoice in advance. Youth Sports would like to add a soccer field in between the baseball field and the dump and they would like lighting for the Soccer Field only. Jill has contacted a lighting vendor and will coordinate between Jason Forgue. (who is the contact person for Youth Sports), our linesmen and the vendor to meet at ballfield for placement and size of lights. Jill will report back once she gets a quote on the lights.
- The Linesmen are in the process of getting the poles ready for Comcast to attach to our poles. Linesmen are hoping to have all our work done within a couple of months if the weather cooperates. Jill will be billing back Comcast at prevailing wage plus 20% on all material.
- The switch for Johnson Hill Road has been ordered.
- The current Solar Buyback Program was discussed. Nothing will change and keeping the participating residents at 8 max.
- There was more discussion on Discounts and Late Fees. Item was table until a later date.
- Jill's review was tabled until a later date

- Jill and the Linesmen met with two engineers from Eversource, their head Arborist and his assistant concerning the trees on Route 20 from the Chester Line up to Bonnie Rigg in Becket. Tyler, the assistant to their head arborist will take a ride with our Linesmen to tag to remove trees that might pose a threat to bringing down the electric lines. This will be no cost to CMELD.
- Jeremy Trembley, one of our Linesmen who works part-time will be dissolving his personal business and is looking to go full-time. He will not need medical insurance seeing he gets his medical insurance from his wife. Commissioners would consider if Donnie Laplant, CMELD's other part-time Linesmen would cut his hours. No decision was made. Jill will talk with Donnie.
- Jill brought up raises. Commissioners haven't had a raise in a couple of years. She suggested \$700 per year. This would give them a \$50 dollar raise per year. She also suggested a 2.5% raise for the other employees. Item was tabled.
- Next meeting is April 4, 2017
  - Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill E. Moretz