

Chester Municipal Electric Light Department

15 Middlefield Road, Chester, MA 01011

Commissioner's Meeting

February 28, 2017

Present: Commissioners: Terry Murphy, Deryck Savoy and Mike Hickson
Manager: Jill Moretz

Meeting was called to order 7:10 pm

- The minutes of the February 2, 2017 meeting were reviewed. Motion was made by Terry to accept the minutes as written. Deryck seconded, all in favor, motion passed.
- The Selectmen said yes on transporting the dirt for the ballfield. Mike was against this. He said he didn't want the Highway Department wasting their time on going and getting the dirt. The Highway had better things to do with their time. Mike wants to pay someone to transport it. Terry said it could cost a substantial amount and who was going to pay. Jill will ask John tomorrow if he minds and if they have time to transport it.
- Jill asked if the Youth Sports group would utilize the ballfield at night. If so the Light Department might be able to put lights up in the field for a minimal amount. Deryck thought that would be a great idea and was almost certain they would. He will get back to us at the next meeting.
- Jill believes all the Street Lights have been changed over to LED. If there are any that haven't she will make sure the Linesmen's change them out.
- Jill and the linesmen met with Comcast. Things are on the fast track to get the poles ready for Comcast to come in and do their work. We will have to have our part-time linesmen come in more than just two days. Comcast is ok with paying the extra dollar amount to get the poles ready.
- Matt Vachula will get a quote on the switch for the bottom of Johnson Hill Road, could be up to \$8,500.
- Jill's review was put on hold. Deryck will call Pat Carlino about this process. Deryck doesn't understand why the three commissioner cannot speak in private to discuss this and how to rate her.

Jill tried to explain that this would might be in violation of the open meeting law. Jill will also shoot out a group email to the other Electric Light Departments too.

- Mike brought up the Meter Reader. Mike wants to have the Linesmen do the meter readings and terminate the present meter reader. Jill said this would not be a good idea. The meters need to be read on a consistent basis and you never know what the Linesmen will be doing and cannot count on them. Mike said that Frank the previous foreman did all the reads. Jill said that this was not correct. Jill will ask Tracy to write up the process of her position and how long the process takes her.
- Deryck asked if Jill had a chance to meet with the Forester from Eversource about the trees on Rt. 20. She has not, but will call and set up an appointment.
- Jill brought up the electrical rates. She thought it would be a beneficial if we did away with the 5% discounts and lowered the rates by 5% for everyone. Then implement a late fee charge for late payers. More research to be done.
- Next meeting is March 21, 2017
 - Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill E. Moretz