

Chester Municipal Electric Light Department

15 Middlefield Road, Chester, MA 01011

Commissioner's Meeting

January 9, 2023

Present: Commissioners: Terry Murphy, Deryck Savoy
Manager: Diane Hall
Attendees: Andy Meyers, Roseanne McClafin, Veonica Marr
Absent: Duane Pease

Meeting was called to order 6:00 pm

- Discussion on net metering was continued. – Deryck proposed to wait until the 1-31 meeting with Sunbug Solar before making any changes to residential or solar policies. It was decided that the Fire Station and the garage should be included in the net metering at the same residential rate – energy only – and would be retroactive. (to when?) and that the Pole Barn would be included at ½ as it is unmetered and based on inverter only.
- Discussed the work outline for water dept duties prepared by Roseanne McClafin. Deryck suggested that we schedule a joint meeting with the Water Commissioners to discuss a stipend based on the number of hours worked for them.
- Help with Human Resource issues (insurance, dental, life, retirement) was discussed again as there is no one at Town of Chester that is currently doing this. CMELD had to basically enroll new employees on their own. Andy Myers said he had discussed this with Don Humason. Deryck suggested getting on the agenda for the next Selectboard meeting, Monday, January 16th, to inquire about a “benefits coordinator” for the Town. This could be a shared position with another town.
- Heater in town garage – Diane contacted Pioneer Valley Planning and there are no grants available for municipalities for fossil fuel heating. She contacted two HVAC vendors to get prices on replacing 1) the CMELD side heat with propane and 2) one system for the entire garage. She will contact State Line Propane in Granby CT per the advice of Terry Murphy to get a third proposal and will report at the next meeting.

- Jill's compensation for training Diane and to do year-end work and process DPU report - requested 2 to 3 months at 18 to 20 hours per week. She requested an increase in compensation for this training. Deryck suggested a COLA increase of 5%. This matter is still under advisement by the Commissioners as Duane Pease was not available to be at this meeting.
- Per Jeremy Trembley, the Defibrillator at the CMELD garage is no longer functional. He checked with Fire Chief about replacing batteries and was told they are no longer available and it will need to be replaced. Diane will contact Richie Small to see if the Town can purchase a new portable one through available grants.
- Motion made by Deryck to accept the previous minutes as written; Terry seconded, all in favor, motion passed.
- Meeting was adjourned at 6:45 by Terry Murphy and seconded by Deryck Savoy.

Next Meeting will be decided after meeting with Selectmen on 1/16/23.

Respectfully submitted,


Diane Hall



