

Chester Municipal Electric Light Department

15 Middlefield Road, Chester, MA 01011

Commissioner's Meeting

March 28, 2023

Present: Commissioners: Terry Murphy, Deryck Savoy, Duane Pease (via telephone)
Manager: Diane Hall
Attendees: Andy Meyers

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

- Discussed March 13th storm and town-wide power outages. Advised Commissioners of Mutual Aid to and from Russell. Waiting to hear from Jill Strong re: MEMA participation and if we can submit invoices.
- Presented proposal for new propane heating system for the CMELD side of town garage. Duane requested calling to get price on purchasing larger propane tank (500 gallons) vs. the proposed two (2) tanks at 120-gallons each.
- Regarding the CMELD record storage in the basement – it was suggested that we store the remaining metal racking units across the street at the old school. We will keep one or two in the basement for records that need to be kept. Terry Donovan mentioned that they would get a quote for shredding whatever documents needed to be disposed of.
- CMELD Garage notes: After the recent storm, Jeremy decided that a smaller bucket truck might be the better option when we decide to purchase a new one. He would like to get one with 4-wheel drive as well.
- Discussion of CMELD separating from the Town Accountant – Andy Meyers brought up the fact that he spoke to an attorney who mentioned that Mass General Laws stated no Municipal Electric Light Dept. could be separate from Town. Diane mentioned that Westfield Gas & Electric was operating independently from the city of Westfield. Deryck suggested that we contact Chris Pollart, CMELD's attorney, for clarification before we go any further with this.

- In other business, Mark Wheeler came into the office to let us know that the tank gauge on the Diesel tank at the town garage needs to be replaced. He will call with a quote, and we will split it accordingly.
- The new pole has been set on Prospect St. in advance of the road construction work and will be billed to Baltazar Construction.
- Andy Meyers mentioned talking to the Army Corp. of Engineers about Hydro Power at Littleville Dam. Deryck mentioned that he would like to look into this more.
- Deryck mentioned that MMWEC has a proposal for having a diesel generator brought into town, which would lower CMELD's RNS charges and lower the usage during afternoon peak draw times. He will get more information about this.
- Motion made by Deryck to accept the previous minutes as written; Terry seconded, all in favor, motion passed.
- The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m. by Terry Murphy and seconded by Deryck Savoy.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Hall

Diane Hall
GM, CMELD

Approved by : accept

Mark

Terry Murphy

Deryck Savoy