

***Littleton Light and Water Departments***  
***Board of Commissioners***  
***Meeting Minutes***

March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**I. Present for Meeting**

Commissioners: Joe Knox, Melissa Hebert, Ivan Pagacik, Dick Taylor, Scott Larsen

General Manager: Nick Lawler

Staff: Dave Ketchen, Sara Karr, Paul Denaro, Matt Silverman

Audience: Mark Hollinger

Meeting called to order: 6:00 PM

Meeting Adjourned: 7:00 PM, Motion by Commissioner Pagacik, seconded by Commissioner Larsen. The Vote: 5-0

**II. General**

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approve minutes from February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025, on a motion made by Commissioner Larsen and seconded by Commissioner Knox, the Board approved the minutes from February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025, The Vote: 5-0
3. Public Input – GM Nick Lawler acknowledged Mark Hollinger and questioned if he had any input. Mark remained silent.

**III. Electric Light Department**

1. 2025 Financials
  - a. The Board reviewed the 17% complete budget
  - b. Power budget is high due to January being a cold month.
  - c. Capital Budget – Not much expended besides the fiber grant which is reimbursable due to the grant AGM Dave Ketchen received.
  - d. Cash Report – The Board reviewed
  - e. Rate of Return – Currently at 1.2%.
  - f. Energy Efficiency Report
2. Capital Project Updates
  - a. Foster Street
    - i. Crews are working on the electric transfers onto the new poles.
  - b. Tree Wire
    - i. Crews working throughout the system
  - c. Fiber
    - i. Purchased fiber and materials for our next fiber project going down King Street.
    - ii. Working on some MassDOT permitting issues.
3. MEAM Legislative Update

- a. Our current administration wants nothing to do with local control of municipalities. Local control is currently how we are run, and this is how we achieve low rates. This administration wants to have state control, and we are seeing that with MBTA Zoning, school and light plants.
- b. There are five items that MEAM are pushing back on.
  - i. Large Building Reporting – A regulation that requires all MLPs to report all large building energy information to the Commonwealth. We are currently not regulated; LELWD files our rates with DPU and reports to an elected board. This will put a burden on our staff to report on large building energy information.
  - ii. Clean Heat Standard – Our administrations attempt to push residents off fossil fuels, but they want to use us to do it. If our residents don't comply, they want us to fine our residents. The amount would come to 67 million dollars over 25 years.
  - iii. Advanced Clean Trucks regulation – DEP's attempt to push us to all electric vehicles. This does not work for bucket trucks and most vehicles. Currently we are struggling to buy a Cabin Chasity because of this mandate. This will have a tremendous impact on how we serve the public.
  - iv. Building Decarbonization Clearinghouse – Equivalent for us to offer MASS SAVE. We have a renewable program that is offered to residents, and we are happy to grow and offer more incentives if residents ask for it. This mandate would add over \$11M annually in additional costs to LELWD ratepayers.
  - v. Clean Energy Bill - Permitting and siting reform language for renewable energy projects. LELWD is already doing this.
- c. On a motion made by Commissioner Larsen and seconded by Commissioner Knox, the Board approved the letter as written. The Vote 5-0.
- 4. Stony Brook Intermediate
  - a. LELWD is looking to sell our share of Stony Brook. We currently are negotiating a price with a potential buyer.
- 5. Transfer into Depreciation Fund Account
  - a. On a motion made by Commissioner Larsen and seconded by Commissioner Pagacik, the Board approved the transfer of \$1,000,000 from the electric operations fund to the depreciation fund. The Vote: 5-0.

#### **IV. Water Department**

- 1. FY25 Financials
  - a. Budget – The Board reviewed the 67% complete budget.
  - b. Capital Budget – The Board reviewed.
  - c. Cash Report – The Board reviewed.
- 2. Capital Project Updates
  - a. Boxborough Water Main
    - i. C Naughton is working on services on Whitcomb Ave, this will hopefully be completed by next week.
    - ii. CJP started road work on Monday and have already put in 900 feet of watermain.
    - iii. Tree Clearing at the well site.
  - b. Beaverbrook Treatment Plant
    - i. Working on the chemical feed lines

- c. Well cleaning is under way.
  - d. Commissioner Pagacik wanted to let the board know that Paul Denaro has been instrumental with the Boxborough Project. Paul is out there day and night supervising this project.
- 3. Cobbs/Nagog (Land)
  - a. LELWD is looking for access to Nagog with a pumphouse and pipe. Nick has been working closely with Chase, who has been very helpful.
  - b. We should have an answer soon on Lot 107-B.

## **V. Sewer Department**

- 1. FY25 Financials
  - a. Budget – The Board reviewed the 67% completed budget.
  - b. Capital Budget – The Board reviewed.
  - c. Cash Report – The Board reviewed.
- 2. Project Updates
  - a. Revoli should be back the mid/late April.
  - b. 242 King Street all material is on site with no supply chain issues. Currently we have a small issue with the fire department plans that we are working on.
  - c. Weston and Sampson infiltration report should be ready by mid-May. LELWD is still working on researching more sites.

## **VI. General Manager**

- 1. General Manager Update
  - a. Devens is looking for O&M services again. LELWD did put in a bid to manage their system.
  - b. LELWD was recognized for reliability.
- 2. Next Meeting and Adjourn
  - a. April 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm