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MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
MUNICIPAL LIGHT ADVISORY BOARD
BMLD CONFERENCE ROOM, 40 PRINCE STREET
Thursday, July 11, 2013
7:15 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Board was called to order at 7:20 PM by BMLAB Chair Brown.

Present: Selectman Jones; BMLAB Chair Brown; Vice Chair Forrester; MLAB Member DiOrion, M. McVay; BMLD General Manager Palmer; BMLD Legal Counsel Selgrade; Belmont Energy Committee, Colton.

II. DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT

The purpose of the meeting is to review the Energy Resource Policy drafted by Belmont Light. R. Colton identified some issues within the policy to discuss. Defining the cost effectiveness within the policy is key. Colton recommended adopting a cost effectiveness test/a utility cost test which was also recommended by Mancinelli.

Colton also recommended having an annual plan in place so such energy programs can be presented. At the end of such calendar year the public and Belmont Light can look back and see if such plans were successful. Palmer agreed that putting meaningful and measurable programs in place, with structured reporting and reviews of each program's performance at year-end is Belmont Light's goal, which will benefit the community.

Colton suggested hiring a third party contractor and referenced the state of Vermont. Efficiency Vermont decided it was wrong public policy to have each utility running such energy efficiency programs. All utilities pooled money together to hire third party contractors such as Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC) which has been very successful.

It was highly recommended by Colton that Belmont Light do the same.

Colton suggested four steps for the Light Board to take: First, it is beneficial to adopt the Energy Resource Policy that was presented. Second, have a budget in place for programs and place such programs in the calendar year 2014. Third, release a RFP to the public. Finally, hire a third party to consult with experts in the energy field.

Appreciation was noted to Mancinelli in regards to the policy. Her time, effort, research and expertise were commended by all.

It was agreed to follow up with a meeting in September.

III. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT

Palmer stated that due to customers' positive response to our reverse 911 call and summer vacations, Belmont Light was very fortunate not to have high capacity demand during the unusually hot summer months.

Palmer stated that a Water Department Project in the center of town resulted in their civil contractor damaging several electrical lines while digging, causing 3 of 6 major supply lines to be out of service at the same time. After much effort and hard work, by the Belmont Light Operations Team, the power was restored quickly and all 3 supply lines were back in service within a week. It was noted that the major priority for Town civil contractors should be safety and such incidents should be addressed by Peter Castanino.

In regards to the project update, Palmer has met with NSTAR since the JDA has been signed. The meeting in June was very positive and productive; NSTAR's suggestions were helpful in moving the DPU permitting process up.

Jennifer Santoro has left her position taking a new job at Peabody Light. Palmer stated that she wanted to pursue other career opportunities and left on good terms. Fortunately, Maria Klubnichkina from Account Temps has been in place since May 2013 to take over Santoro's responsibilities associated with accounts payable and operational needs within the finance department. JC Marketing will take over the marketing, communication and educational outreach aspect of the job. The Belmont Light succession plan is working.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM