

**MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
BELMONT MUNICIPAL LIGHT ADVISORY BOARD
CONFERENCE ROOM, BEECH STREET CENTER
266 BEECH STREET, BELMONT
Tuesday, December 9, 2014
7:15 P.M.**

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2015 MAR 11 PM 2:19

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Brown called a regular meeting of the Municipal Light Advisory Board (MLAB) to order at 7:20 PM.

Present:

MLAB- Chair Brown, Members DiOrio, McClain, McVay, Jones, Klionsky, Rojas

Belmont Light- General Manager Palmer, Clerk Williams

Absent:

MLAB Vice Chair Forrester

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED 06/19/14

Brown made a motion to approve the June 19, 2014 minutes. DiOrio seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

The October 15, 2014 minutes were also mentioned, but McClain asked for additional time to review them.

III. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON SOLAR DISTRIBUTED GENERATION

Palmer reviewed recent occurrences regarding proposed changes to the pricing structure for solar distributed generation. The new rate, if approved, would be called "Residential Rate APV." In November, the Municipal Light Board had issued a directive to cut the amount of the proposed fixed charge for solar customers by 50 percent. Charging solar customers a lesser amount would still allow for the replacement of the existing Fixed Production Limit and would help Belmont Light recover some of its distribution costs. Additionally, the Light Board and MLAB discussed that existing solar customers would be waived from this new fixed charge for a period of 6 years.

Also according to the most recent proposal, any power fed back to Belmont Light's system from solar customers would be credited at the Locational Marginal Price (LMP) based on a 24-hour production period averaged monthly. Palmer noted these tariff proposals are very similar to what was included in the 2011 tariff as Phase 2.

Rojas noted that a plan to give existing solar customers a rebate based on system size is still under discussion. Rojas and Palmer agreed that this is a separate issue from the tariff and should be voted on separately. Rojas also stated that the Light Board would be voting on whether or not to adopt MLAB's recommendations on Monday, December 15th.

Brown made a motion to recommend Residential Rate APV for solar distributed generation. His motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

IV. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

b. Update on billing system

Palmer stated that the project team, which consists of staff from Belmont Light and the Town, are close to deciding between the two vendors, NCIS and SEDC, to provide the new billing system. The team is looking to select a candidate by December 23, 2014 and sign a contract in early 2015.

c. Update on substation and transmission project

Palmer stated that Belmont is finalizing the bid evaluation for the construction of the substation. He also noted that the project is still on schedule and within the budget.

Klionsky stated that briefs were recently filed at the DPU citing a case that was relevant to the substation. The project team should take note of this filing.

The board then briefly discussed Belmont Light financials, with Palmer stating that Belmont Light would soon be making its annual PILOT payment to the town. The Municipal Light Board would review financials during quarterly reviews and would vote on the PILOT transfer.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board moved into Executive Session at 8:14 PM:

To protect trade secrets, confidential, competitively sensitive or other proprietary information provided in the course of proceedings when a municipal lighting plant board determines that such disclosure will adversely affect its ability to conduct business in relation to other entities making, selling or distributing electric power and energy pursuant to section 47D of chapter 164.