

**MINUTES  
TOWN OF BELMONT  
BELMONT MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM  
TOWN HALL  
Monday, June 22, 2015  
6:30 P.M.**

2015 AUG 31 AM 9:21

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

*Chair Baghdady called a regular meeting of the Municipal Light Board (MLB) to order at 6:31 P.M.*

**Present:**

MLB- Chair Baghdady, Member Williams

Belmont Light- General Manager Palmer, Staff Keane

**Absent:**

MLB Vice Chair Paolillo

**II. REVIEW OF BELMONT LIGHT NET METERING AND BUYBACK TARIFF FOR EMISSION-FREE RENEWABLE GENERATING FACILITIES**

Baghdady stated that the Light Board was holding the night's meeting as a result of Williams' suggestion to revise Belmont Light's current solar tariff. Williams explained that he sees the current tariff as a barrier to new residential solar installation in town because it contains references to Phase 2. The references to Phase 2 create uncertainty because there is no clear guidance about how Phase 2 would be applied to new or existing customers, making it difficult for solar customers and vendors to calculate returns on investments.

Williams hoped that the tariff could be revised and implemented for July 1<sup>st</sup>. The new Temporary Net Metering Working Advisory Group could then provide their recommendations sometime after that. To Williams, addressing the tariff is important because another solar season had just started and the federal tax credit for solar PV units is expiring at the end of 2015.

Baghdady said that Phase 2 has already been suspended and that even if the tariff is amended, there will be another phase of the policy at some point because of the Working Advisory Group's work. Baghdady cautioned that eliminating the Phase 2 language might set an unfair expectation that another phase of the tariff is not coming. Also, Baghdady consulted with Belmont Light's Legal Counsel, Walter Foskett, to get legal advice on the matter. Foskett reported that Belmont Light had already submitted several recent filings with the DPU implementing and then rescinding Rate APV. According to Foskett, Belmont Light has an obligation to its customers to maintain a certain level of price certainty and stability. Filing another tariff with the DPU would create too much change and uncertainty. Foskett's advice was to not take any action on the tariff until the Working Advisory Group completes its work. Baghdady agreed with this legal opinion.

Williams stated that he was still undeterred on wanting to get the tariff updated. The Board and Palmer discussed the situation further, with Palmer questioning whether it was worth the additional time and effort to update an interim tariff. The Board also agreed that they will ask the Working Group to aim to provide recommendations by August 1<sup>st</sup>. Baghdady wanted to make it clear that this was a suggested date and not a mandate.

### **III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES DATED 5/22/15**

Baghdady needed additional time to review and edit the minutes from May 22, 2015.

### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

*The Board moved to adjourn at 6:56 P.M.*