

2019 SEP 20 AM 10:59

FINAL

Light Board Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Minutes of Meeting held on August 7, 2019

Belmont Light Conference Room

7:30am

Attending LBAC members: Chair Steve Klionsky, David Beavers, Travis Franck, Bob Forrester, Ralph Jones, Michael Macrea

Belmont Light (BL) attending: General Manager Christopher Roy, Rebecca Keane, Ben Thivierge, Maria Makar-Limanov, Aiden Leary

Select Board Member Roy Epstein was present

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Convened at 7:34am

II. DISCUSSION OF GHG LEGISLATION

- General Manager Roy reviewed the history of prior discussion on bills pending in the state legislature, including discussion at two Light Board meetings. In a draft letter he expressed support for H.832 (new number H.3983) but recommended changes to counter the potential loss of Belmont Light control over efforts to combat climate change. The intent was for the letter to be signed by the Light Board. The letter also reversed prior support for H.2863
- Select Board Member Epstein proposed that rather than send a letter, General Manager Roy should testify at the legislature. He also expressed concern about supporting or suggesting changes to legislation that would impact MLPs in a different situation than BL as far as being able to comply with a new state law.
- Chairman Klionsky raised reservations about fully understanding the implications of the bills and advised to not have a vote in support of the draft letter, rather pass the issue on to the Light Board.
- No action was taken.

III. OVERVIEW OF THE VIRTUAL PEAKER PILOT

- Keane reviewed progress on the Virtual Peaker pilot.
 - * No load control by BL at the moment – savings accrue through behavioral modification
 - * Platform agnostic of technology.
 - * Goal: respond to customer interest in smart home devices, lay groundwork for storage and inverters to help manage BL load
- Program statistics:
 - * EV customers piloted, about 20 people where BL had control of the chargers, some people signed on heat pump water heaters, HVAC – about 3 to 4 events per month.
 - * 100 kW peak demand reduction (contingent on current season peak)

- Plan to expand program next year – bring on more devices.

IV. REVIEW OF THE 2019 BUDGET BOOK

- Forrester commented that the budget presented is comprehensive and better than in the past. It is a good trial run for the 2020 budget.
 - It appeared that in some places numbers were updated whereas they weren't in other places leading to internal inconsistencies.
 - For future timing it was suggested that the budget be presented at least one month before the start of a fiscal year.
 - It wasn't clear in some cases whether the basis was cash or accrual, where they are different make it obvious so they can be reconciled.
 - Update next version to reflect most recent power supply policy
- Anomalies in annual trends were attributed to an NSTAR meter issue.
- Question to pending possible charge from Eversource from new transmission line. No decision from ISO-NE for the last three of four years should the line be socialized. (\$200,000 is budgeted for possible future charges per year)
- Section 5 – costs for storage not included in 2020 budget. Will put in a solar cost, closer to when cap is being placed on old incinerator site.
- Forrester and Chair Klionsky will follow up with General Manager Roy and Makar-Limanov regarding additional comments on the budget book.

V. GM UPDATE

- Upgrade to Distribution System:
 - * Project B is fully complete – cables installed and fully energized
 - * All work focused on Project C
 - * Some costs that have been associated with 'expense' have been shifted to capital.
 - * BL is installing fiber cable to support schools
- Update on TOU rates development:
 - * Consultant hired to develop TOU options
 - * Value of DG and storage to be included in options
 - * Work will continue through the Fall. Results expected in the Winter.

VI. FUTURE MEETINGS

- September 11, 7:30 am
- October 16, 7:30 am

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- Adjourned at 9:34 am.