

**MINUTES
TOWN OF BELMONT
MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD
In Joint Session with the
LIGHT BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Remote Meeting via Zoom
Monday, February 28, 2022
5:30pm**

**RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: April 13, 2022
TIME: 8:10 AM

MLB CALL TO ORDER. Vice Chair Roy Epstein called a meeting of the Municipal Light Board to order at 5:30pm.

Present for MLB was Vice Chair Epstein and Member Adam Dash. Chair Mark Paolillo joined the meeting at a later point.

LBAC CALL TO ORDER. Chair Travis Franck called a meeting of the Light Board Advisory Committee to order at 5:31pm.

Present for LBAC was Chair Franck, Vice Chair Michael Macrae, Members David Beavers, Steve Klionsky, Robert Forrester, and Jonathan Abe. Member Alexandra van Geel was absent.

Present for Belmont Light was General Manager Craig Spinale, Assistant General Manager Sam Osmanovic, Communications Coordinator Aidan Leary, and Energy Resources Manager Becca Keane.

Others: Shawna Healey, Director of Human Resources; Philippe Hyppolite, Assistant Director of Human Resources.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 24, 2022: Mr. Dash moved to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2022 Municipal Light Board meeting. Mr. Epstein seconded, and the motion passed by rollcall vote.

Mr. Paolillo joined the meeting at 5:32pm.

GENERAL MANAGER PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Ms. Healey outlined the process for Mr. Spinale's yearly performance review and detailed the scores and comments from the review.

Mr. Spinale thanked the Board for their comments, and also thanked the Belmont Light staff. He then listed Belmont Light's major accomplishments for the meeting including the TOU Pilot Program, the governance decision, a new labor contract, the installation of an outage management system, and the addition of a new off hour customer service call center.

Mr. Paolillo, Mr. Epstein, and Mr. Dash each shared comments in support of Mr. Spinale's leadership.

Mr. Epstein also offered some items he would like to see addressed in the future.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion: Mr. Epstein moved that the Municipal Light Board go into Executive Session to conduct strategy sessions in preparations for negotiations with nonunion personnel (General Manager) and to discuss trade secrets or confidential, competitively sensitive or other proprietary information (Renewable opportunities). Mr. Dash seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Franck moved that the Light Board Advisory Committee Board go into Executive Session to discuss trade secrets or confidential, competitively sensitive or other proprietary information (Renewable opportunities). Mr. Klionsky seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

The Municipal Light Board and Light Board Advisory Committee moved into Executive Session at 5:48pm.

Motion: *The Executive Session of the LBAC was adjourned at 6:20pm.*

Motion: *Mr. Dash moved to adjourn the Executive Session of the Municipal Light Board. Mr. Epstein seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by rollcall vote. The Executive Session was adjourned at 6:34pm.*

The Light Board Advisory Committee returned to open session at 6:20pm, and the Municipal Light Board returned to open session at 6:34pm.

Mr. Spinale outlined the three renewable energy contract changes that were discussed in Executive Session.

CONTINUATION OF GENERAL MANAGER PERFORMANCE REVIEW

Ms. Healey explained that the Board voted to award a merit increase of 3% to Mr. Spinale for calendar year 2022.

Mr. Paolillo explained that this increase places Mr. Spinale in the average salary range of General Manager's of light companies of similar size.

2022 BELMONT LIGHT BUDGET DISCUSSION

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

DISCUSSION ON BHS SOLAR PROJECT

Mr. Spinale then explained why Belmont Light funding the BHS solar project is not a good fit for the organization, saying that the project is very small, and the numbers do not work with Belmont Light's goals.

Mr. Dash, Mr. Epstein, and Mr. Paolillo agreed with Mr. Spinale's views about the suitability of the project for Belmont Light.

Mr. Franck said that LBAC is excited for the Town to do the project but agrees that it is not appropriate for Belmont Light. There was a discussion of LBAC's decision regarding this issue.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

FUTURE MEETINGS: March 21, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: *Mr. Dash moved the adjourn the meeting of the Municipal Light Board. Mr. Epstein seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by rollcall vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:47pm.*

Motion: *Mr. Abe moved the adjourn the meeting of the Light Board Advisory Committee. Mr. Forrester seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by rollcall vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:48pm.*

Respectfully submitted by,
Susan Peghiny
Recording Secretary