

Groveland Municipal Light Department
Minutes of Meeting
November 14, 2017

Present: K. Cross, S. LaBelle, S. Daniels, K. Snow and M. Croteau

Time Started: 4:02 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed by all present.

Approval of the Agenda:

- Motion to approve by S. Daniels.
- 2nd by S. LaBelle.
- All in Favor.

Approval of Warrants 18-19 and 18-17:

- Motion to approve by S. Daniels.
- 2nd by S. LaBelle.
- All in Favor.

Approval of Minutes of October 17, 2017.

- Motion to approve by S. LaBelle.
- 2nd by S. Daniels.
- All in Favor.

944 Salem St:

- 93A: K. Snow informed the commissioners that Walter Foskett of Duncan and Allen New England, the attorney representing GELD in dealing with GTC Construction's non-payment to contractors, has sent the attached copy of the 93A letter to both GCT and Philadelphia Insurance Companies regarding the monies owed to GELD. In Speaking with Walter, it seems that we have a very strong case against the Surety, and that this letter should produce a payment for the amount owed back to GELD for Direct payments made. S. Labelle asked if GELD already paid our lawyer fee. K. Snow replied yes.
- K. Snow made mention that the work has started, if you haven't already noticed, the rear lot has been cleared and grade stakes installed in order to have the back lot paved. GHD has had equipment off to perform the work (Stump removal, earth removal) behind the building and regrading of the parking lot area. Bob Arakelian didn't think it would be pave before winter. More likely is that the finish sub-grading could be completed and compacted. This will allow the parking surface to be paved in the spring of 2018.
- K. Snow discussed the details of the wind storm on 11/30/2018 telling the commissioners that GELD had numerous calls for downed trees and wires. Most of the calls were due to trees on private property tearing wiring from homes, requiring homeowners to contact an electrician to have the service repaired before re-energization. In these cases, our lineman had cut free the damaged service and re-attached the service feed to the home, allowing electrician's to do their work and install temporary connections, restoring the homes power. Geld had one broken pole, which was set by Verizon. K. Snow was happy to report that all Groveland customers not having damage services had power by 2 p.m., allowing GELD to assist in restoration in Georgetown, which continued onto 10/31. Neppa had contacted me several times during the day requesting Mutual Aid in various locations throughout New England, but GELD was already vested in Georgetown, and

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due to our presence in the USVI we were unable to provide additional assistance. GELD ability to weather this storm with what I regards as minor issues is a really a testament to the Tree Trimming program that has been instituted, which insures that 25% of the town is cut for line clearance every year. Our system stability did not go unnoticed: Not only were we contacted by numerous residents expressing appreciation that our system remained functional, but also by regional agencies inquiring about what we had done differently than what wasn't done in their communities. I would like to commend the GELD staff for their hard work during this event.

USVI Restoration Effort:

- K. Snow made mention that Lineman Klosowski returned on 11/6 and was replaced by Linemen Saunders and Rhudick. Lineman Saunders and Rhudick will be retuning on 11/27, and will be replaced by myself and lineman Klosowski. This will be the final wave with the return date of 12/15. The truck will be returned to Ft. Lauderdale by barge and then transported by flatbed to Boston by FEMA.

USVI K. Snow Compensation Agreement:

- A motion for a roll call vote was made by K. Cross in the relation to K. Snow's Compensation Package, USVI Restoration Effort: to see if the board will vote to assign GM Kevin Snow to fulfill Mutual Aid obligations as an employee of the Groveland Light Department in St. Thomas for a period of approximately three weeks starting on or about November 28th, and further, to compensate him accordance with Groveland Municipal Light Department's mutual aid policy, which shall be attached to the minutes of this meeting, based on his annual salary pro-rated on an hourly basis, the starting rate of which is \$62.50 per hour"
- K. Cross "Aye".
- S. LaBelle "Aye".
- S. Daniels "Aye".
- Unanimous vote for USVI K. Snow Compensation Agreement across the board.

Power Contact NextEra Energy Purchase:

- K. Snow secured and signed a PPA for 1 MW of power from NextEra for the period of 2014-2029 from Seabrook Station. He, along with other managers, agreed that this was a good opportunity to secure power at a fair price, while also being afforded the benefit of getting the EFEC's. He felt that this was an excellent opportunity based on proposed Clean Energy Standards that are likely to be proposed by MEAM. If the regulations are accepted as being proposed, the CFEC's Groveland receives from Seabrook will be counted as part of Groveland's "Green" energy portfolio. He will be voting in favor of the proposed regulations that MEAM has crafted during the membership meeting to be held on November 15th.

Employees Wage Agreement with Office and Line Staff:

- K. Snow reminds the commissioners that it expires 1/1/2018 at twelve a.m. He had asked the employees to get together and discuss what they would be looking for as far as compensation or benefits. Each commissioner was given a copy of what employees are proposing. In K. Snow review compensation rates among various local Municipals Light Departments our staff is slightly under the average at the 1st Class and Lead Lineman positions , (-1.42, -1.83), while the Line Foreman is slightly above (+.47). Office Staff is well below (-2.16,-2.50).
- K. Snow proposes:

- Line Foreman: 2% per 3 years.
- Rest of Line Staff: 3% per 3 years.
- Additional day after Thanksgiving as a paid day off for all Groveland Light Department staff.
- K. Snow in reviewing office staff compensation rates among various Local Municipal Light Department he recommends the following for the first year a make wage adjustment to bring them solidly into the average of local compensation rates for similar job titles: Office Manager- \$34.00 per hr. (increase of \$2.77 per hr.) and Customer Service Representative \$30.50 per hr. (Increase of \$2.54 per hr.).
 - 2nd and third year 3% for both Office Staff.
- K. Snow asked the commission to think about the recommendations at the Commissioners meeting that the wage agreement be discussed with all staff included where a vote may be taken.
- K. Cross mentioned that this was not the first time office staff rate was spread much differently and it has been discussed that it should be done a differently than a percentage at times.
- S. Daniels wanted to know if an office staff member was out or both were out was there a backup plan.
- M. Croteau explained the procedure on the back up of office staff and a plan was implemented years ago.

Other:

- K. Cross mentions that maybe a vote will be taken at the next meeting on increasing the stipend for the commissioners.
- K. Cross also made mention that next year maybe his last year as a commissioner.

Next meeting will be December 20th, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

- Motion to adjourn the meeting by S. LaBelle at 5:03.
- 2nd by S. Daniels.
- All in favor.

Approval of minutes:

K. Cross

Date:

12-20-2017