

Groveland Municipal Light Department
Minutes of Meeting
March 20, 2018

TOWN OF GROVELAND
2018 APR 12 PM 1:55
TOWN CLERK
RECEIVED/POSTED

Present: K. Cross, S. LaBelle, S. Daniels, K. Snow, M. Croteau & M. Cloutier
Time Started: 4:02 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was performed by all present.

Approval of the Agenda:

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

Approval of Warrants: 18-31, 18-33 & 18-35.

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

Approval of Minutes for Regular Session on January 24, 2018.

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

Rates:

- K. Snow informed the commissioners that a review of all customers' was done and as a result of the audit some rates may have to be changed.
- K. Snow replied by reviewing B Rate customers it was found that twenty three would need to be changed from B Rate to C Rate. Due to the way the rate is classified as a result in usage.
- C Rate to B Rate the review found that two customers' rates had to be changed.
- A Rate to B Rate the review found that nine rates had to be changed.
- S. LaBelle asked if customers should be notified. M. Croteau raised her hand to mention that GELD doesn't have to notify the customer of a rate change. S. LaBelle was thinking that it would help by informing them. M. Croteau mentioned that in the past several rates have been changed on several customers and those customers never called asking why.
- M. Cloutier mentioned that new meters must be put in so that customers can see the demand.
- K. Cross mentions buy the new meters.
- A discussion about the seasonal customers who would be effected the most ensued because of the demand during the time when they aren't open and they still would be billed. S. Labelle was thinking maybe let them know.
- K. Snow said nothing else would get changed until training on the Elster Program was done and revisited. It was only fair to change the rate because that is what those customers' should be getting charged.

Commissioners Compensation Package:

- K. Snow looked into and presents the board with a list of what other municipal light plants compensate their commissioners. All board members had a chance to review the information.
- K. Cross made mention that he only brought this subject up because it was a fare rate and he didn't think it was unreasonable.
- S. LaBelle personally thinks the amount of money is not a big deal. But he doesn't think it would not look well due to the fact of the energy customers had used in the past two months due to cold weather and cost of the bills. He also would like to see if monies can be recouped with the law suit from the building of this building.
- S. Daniels thinks that he agrees with S. Labelle and may revisit this subject at a later date.
- K. Cross said that he can live with it but he just thought he should mention it because of the raises at the end of three years.

In Lieu of Taxes:

- K. Snow recommends remaining at \$35,000.00 this year. Which was amount given by GELD last year in 2017. GELD supplied the town with \$42, 403.00 in non-changed contributions to the town, including community education programs, Holiday displays of Flags and trees, the Solar Field PILOT lease payment, and payment towards the Code Red system, which we used for the first time last year when moving to the 944 Salem Street location.
- S. LaBelle asked about the taxes for the building. Wondering if it was included?
- K. Snow replied no but that the town only charges for the leased parts of the building.
- K. Cross made a motion to make a payment for \$35,000.00 for 2018 for the In Lieu of Taxes to the town for this year.
- 2nd by S. LaBelle.
- All in favor.

LED Lights for Underground Developments:

- K. Snow was looking into possibly purchasing LED retrofit lamps replacements for the bulk of the URD fed street lighting in town. GELD is currently demoing some LED on Hemlock Drive for a few weeks now and GELD hasn't heard anything back (good or bad) from residents that live in that area. The cost of the purchase of 48 lamps would be between \$1452.00 and \$1860.00, depending on wattages selection. In my calculation a saving using 4180 hours of usage per year and 2016 Street Light charge of .1332. Current cost of 22watt LED would save \$1044.00. With the exception of Elm Park because they will need smaller lamps. I will look into that.
- S. LaBelle asked how long did it take for the guys to change out the fixtures.
- K. Snow said three lights in one hour.
- S. Daniels mentioned to K. Snow to check the lumens.
- K. Snow made mentioned that once this project gets done than ninety nine percent of the lights in town would be LED.

Storms:

- Kevin informs the commissioners:

March 2, 2018: 2 broken poles and all actual calls done by 6:30 p.m.

March 3, 2018: Helped with mutual aid to Ipswich.

March 7 & 8, 2018: was challenging. GELD crews started responding to calls at approximately 11 p.m. on the 7th of March. At 2 a.m. the town lost power from our normal Substation feed. The

2329 was switched over to the 2403, our back up. This lasted about twenty minutes before this line (National Grid) went down as well. The National Grid line going down lead to an outage that lasted until approximately 9:15 P.M. on the 8th of March.

- GELD crew had 150 calls out during the storm.

March 10, 2018: GELD gave mutual aid to Georgetown.

March 13, 2018: this storm had lighter snow and blew off trees and lines causing know issues.

Issues because of this storm on the 7th and 8th:

- Office had no power and needed a generator for the office. This generator only gave power for the 2 way radio and a small electric heater and the copier to be used sparingly. The office had a battery operated light. The phones in the office did not operate causing the Police Department to answer our calls.
- Discussion of purchasing a generator for the building ensued. K. Snow will be looking into generator and get back to the commissioners.
- K. Snow will work with Evolab for a backup battery for the phones and computers so the office staff can communicate with customers in case this ever happens again.

Other:

- K. Snow informs the commissioner's that a police officer was by to notify our department that there was a level three sex offender working for Groveland Auto.
- K. Snow called Diedre and she said as long as all the businesses in the building have been notified that GELD doesn't have to post it.
- K. Snow explained to the commissioners that due to the recent storm that he has set up an account with Twitter and Facebook so the public can be keep informed when there is outage.

Next meeting scheduled for April 10, 2018 at 4:00 p.m.

- Motion to adjourn the meeting by K. Cross at 5:30 p.m.
- 2nd by S. LaBelle.
- All in favor.

Approval of minutes:

Date:

K. K. Cross

4-10-2018