

Groveland Municipal Light Department
Minutes of Meeting
May 16, 2023

Present: S. LaBelle (SL) had not been sworn in as Chairman at Town Hall but will attend and not vote., M. Cloutier (MC), S. Daniels (SD), K. Snow (KS) & M. Croteau (MCC)

Public in attendance: Stephanie Bartelt

Time Started: 3:33 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed by all present.

Citizen query opened at 3:33 p.m. and closed at 3:48 p.m. Stephane Bartelt came to sit in on the meeting. MC asked her if she had any questions. She replied no, not at this time.

Approval of the Agenda:

- Motion to approve by SD.
- 2nd by MC.
- All in Favor.

Approval of Warrants: (23-43), (23-45), (23-47)

- Motion to approve by SD.
- 2nd by MC.
- All in Favor.

Approval of Minutes of April 11, 2023.

- Motion to approve by SD.
- 2nd by MC.
- All in Favor.

Board Reorganization:

- KS was going to have the Commissioners have a vote taken for reorganization, but SL was unable to be sworn in at Town Hall by this meeting.

April 2023 Investments and March 2023 Financials:

- KS informed the Commissioners that:
 - 1) Our operating cash is at \$284,000.00 due to the purchase of the bucket truck at \$309,000.00
 - 2) Operating income is -\$1.8k for the month, Interest Income was \$67k, and net income for the month of March 2023 is \$65k.
 - 3) Year to date income is \$121k.
 - 4) Depreciation and Rate Stabilization for April 2023 is \$33K.
 - 5) KS reached out to Tim Flynn of LPL. Tim is putting a presentation together for me explaining their thoughts on where they believe the market is headed.

Collection:

- MCC passed out the Trial Balance report to the Commissioners.
- On this report MCC added the arrears to date. Shut off date is April 22, 2023. Last month our office was short staffed but did a good job working together to keep the overall dollar amount due down. Currently, our office has signed up 18 customers for payment plans and we are hoping to get more this month.
- Commissioners are happy with the process the department uses with collection.

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Manager's Report:

Battery:

- KS our department and GML are continuing to have discussions with Convergent to see about increasing the percentage of shared savings. KS is also looking into doing a group project with Reading involving multiple MLP's.
- SD asked how long the contract will be for.
- KS replied that would depend on the contract.
- SD asked who else has done one.
- MC spoke up and said Middleton has done one and explained how it went for them.

453 Main Street:

- KS met with Eric Harper, Town Administrator Rebecca Oldman, and Town Planner Anne Schindler to discuss the donation of property. The Town Administrator is on board with our department receiving the donation. The Conservation Commission is close to finalizing a remediation plan for disturbed areas. Once the plan has been approved and implemented to their satisfaction the Town Administrator will seek to have the Selectmen vote to approve the donation.
- SD replied that GELD will need to see a 21E done to test soil to make sure that it isn't contaminated.
- Stephane Bartelt asked what the Light Department plans on doing with the property.
- KS would like to put parking for the rail trail, lights for safety and security for our substation.
- Stephane Bartelt mentioned her concerns about wildlife being sensitive to light.
- KS explained that GMLD uses fixtures that are Dark-skies compliant and that meet AMA recommendations relating to the light color temperature.
- MC asked if there was a timeline?
- KS replied to no.

DPU Report:

- KS informed the Commissioners that Katie had finished the report. He needs to look it over and they will see the DPU Report at next month's meeting.

Forestry Truck:

- KS signed a purchase and sale agreement with JJ Kane Auctioneers to purchase a 2016 Freightliner M2 106 with chip body and an Altec LR7-56 bucket. This will replace the current number five truck. The earliest you will see the truck added to the fleet is late June.

Unit H:

- KS has created a bid package for new doors and siding. Bid opening will be June 13, 2023. The estimated cost is appx \$40,000.00. GELD is doing this so that we can license the unit to GML Utility Services as a vehicle maintenance facility where they will service trucks for customer utilities.

Rodeo Team:

- GELD'S rodeo team was made up of Kenny Rhudick, Jesse Doumanian and me. Andy Klosowski was a judge. We placed 9th out of 15th.
- KS took a minute to congratulate Commissioner Sean LaBelle and his Rowley team for placing second in Speed Climb.

Birchwood/Blueberry/Pinewood Rd Project:

- KS informed the board that all the primary is energized. The crew started cutting over transformers this Friday.

106 King St:

- KS spoke with Mike Alesse, one of the developers. GMLD line crews will pull in primary next week as the conduit and box placement will be finalized.
- A discussion ensued about who owned the equipment and how it was going to be fed. KS said we will own the equipment. The configuration is a loop feed containing 2 padmount transformers and a sectionalizing cabinet.

Other:

- KS informed the board that a GML annual meeting will be scheduled this summer to discuss the current projects and work they will be offering.
 - KS mentioned the exceptional lead-times on transformers and that it may impact the speed of development in town.
 - KS was very happy to announce that Line Forman- Kirk Blaisdell and his girlfriend Lauren welcomed a baby girl, Gracie, to their family early this month.
 - KS mentioned that he had posted additional information on our website explaining solar per the request of Jan Dempsey.
 - SL asked to be recognized and was allowed to by MC. SL was approached by Mark Ringuette to see if it is possible to have lighting installed at the parking lot at Washington Park Baseball Fields. A discussion ensued by all. KS will speak with the town to see if they would agree to the additional lights as the Selectmen's approval would be needed.
 - Next month's Commissioners' meeting will be scheduled for June 14th at 3:30 p.m.
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- Motion to adjourn the meeting by SD at 4:32 pm.
 - 2nd by MC.
 - All in favor.

Approval of minutes:

Michael Clats

Date:

6/14/23