



LEYDEN MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT Meeting Minutes May 12, 2022

Selectboard Members Present: Bill Glabach, Erica Jensen

Others Present: Michele Giarusso, Jack Golden, Dave Vreeland, Susan Bobe

Jack called the meeting to order at 5:00pm

Motion: Erica moved to approve the March 25, 2022, meeting minutes. Unanimous.

Redundancy Backhaul Update- Jack stated the 5 towns involved are making progress. The vendor, Crown Castle is slated to connect to Rowe above the tree line. The contract has been sent to KP Law and Donna MacNicol to review. We will then merge the suggestions together. We are very hopeful everything will be fully installed by the end of this year. The grant has been put through by Colrain, we should know in June if we receive. Erica asked how the contract will work between the 5 towns. Jack replied, Rowe is acting as the owner with Crown Castle. We will be paying for equipment and engineering to Westfield Gas and Electric as they are designing the network. Crown provides the service at \$300/month. This is much lower than we currently pay with MBI per month for redundancy that is not really redundancy because it uses the same line until it reaches Greenfield. We still have 2 more years with MBI. Then who knows other private companies may provide service at much less cost per month in the future.

Deb Wagner /Enterprise fund – Everyone agreed the meeting we had with Deb Wagner was very informative. We learned that we could transfer money to the town to pay for our debt as long as it is within two years. We can set up a stabilization account. CAF2 (Connecting America Fund) money we will be receiving \$20,000 per year for 10 years. We can use this money to pay down the debt also. Susan mentioned the retained earnings amount must pay back the town \$23,000 more or less for the outstanding construction bill we paid last year. There was discussion at length on what to do with the retained earnings amount that DLS certified. Susan stated she did not have that amount in the bank.

Future of MLP Board – Jack suggested the makeup of the MLP board be made of up one Selectboard member, one Finance Committee member and one resident in addition to the Manager and Assistant Manager. All agreed.

Next Meeting: Friday May25th at 5:00pm.

Motion: Erica moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:30pm. Bill Seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michele Giarusso