

**MINUTES OF THE
MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD MEETING
July 13, 2021**

PURSUANT TO notice given, the Merrimac Municipal Light Board (“Board”) met in the Municipal Light Department’s (“MLD” or “Department”) Administration Building, 10 W Main Street, at 4:00PM.

PRESENT

Those present included Chair Larry Fisher, Vice Chair Paula Hamel, Secretary Norman Denault, General Manager Kurt Demmer (“Manager”), and Office Manager Tara Aniello.

MEETING START

A motion was made and accepted to bring the meeting to order at 4:08PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioners voted 3-0 to accept the June 8, 2021, Board Meeting Minutes as written.

GENERAL MANAGER’S ITEMS

Financial January through April:

The Manager presented the Income Statement and the Balance sheet for the month of April. The Department saw a year-to-date profit of \$264,273.66 compared to a loss of \$194,126.45 last year. A contributing factor was a drastic increase in interest income this year compared to last year.

Office Renovation:

The Manager has been in contact with Joe Luna from Luna Design to start on the office renovations. The renovations have been postponed at Federal Way to focus on the office improvements. The biggest priorities are to put a conference room in and create separation for the office staff for better security.

Reliability Report:

The Manager presented the first and second quarter reliability reports. The first quarter had six outages, 3 of which were animal contact, one tree/limbs, 1 due to NGRID loss of supply and the last an equipment failure. Second quarter had a total of 11 outages, 6 from tree contact, 4 from animal contact and 1 from the NGRID loss of supply.

Energy Appliance Rebate Program:

The Manager asked if the Board wanted to continue the rebate program as is or if there will be any changes. The board told the Manager to research other Municipals to see what they are offering and get back to the Board at the next meeting.

Tree Trimming:

The Manager said he would like to get Pathfinder back in to start a tree trimming program. The Department would identify areas that need work and control them on a five-year cycle. Larry Fisher mentioned that a customer lost power during a storm after asking multiple times to trim the lines. Fisher also mentioned that lighting is not very good on Walnut Street, and they were asking about security lighting. The Mnager will reach out to Bob Sinibaldi and see if there is anything the Department can do to get more light in the area for added security.

Corporate Resolution:

The Manager asked the Board if they could review and sign a resolution appointing Kurt Demmer as the new Visa Member and removing Kenneth Lamb. The Board approved and signed.

Battery Installation:

The Manager is worried about reverse power flow from the battery if installed. It could cause issues with protection making another liability part of the system. The Manager has asked Kruger to put a proposal together and he will look at it. There would have to be additional transformers also installed at the site to be able to operate the batteries. The Mnager will update the Board as new information comes in.

Fire Dept:

Larry Fisher said that the Fire Dept. roof needs to be replaced and he was thinking of putting solar in. He mentioned it could be a Light Dept. asset as well and it could benefit from it if storage is a possibility. The generator at the Fire Dept is 20-25 years old and there is no back up if it goes down. It would also be a green energy component for the Light Dept.

Stanwood Landscaping:

The area around the back of the building has overgrown and the Manager is going to email Stanwood Landscaping to clean up any overgrown area. He will also see if they can clean the gutters since they are all clogged.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15PM.

Chairman

Norman R. Demmer

Vice Chair

Paula Horne

Secretary