

**Joint Meeting of the Municipal Light Board and  
The Municipal Light Advisory Board (MLAB)  
BMLD Conference Room, 40 Prince Street  
Monday, March 5, 2012  
8:00 AM**

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**ATTENDEES**

James Palmer, BMLD General Manager/CEO  
Ralph Jones, Municipal Light Board Chair  
Mark Paolillo, Municipal Light Board  
Angelo Firenze, Municipal Light Board  
Ashley Brown, Municipal Light Advisory Board (MLAB) Chair  
Robert Forrester, Municipal Light Advisory Board Vice Chair  
Tim McCarthy, Municipal Light Advisory Board  
Mark McVay, Municipal Light Advisory Board  
Gretchen McClain, Municipal Light Advisory Board  
Ed Selgrade, BMLD Legal Counsel  
Jennifer Santoro, BMLD Communications Coordinator

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**CALL TO ORDER**

The joint meeting of the Municipal Light Board and the Municipal Light Advisory Board (MLAB) was called to order at 8:07 AM by Municipal Light Board Chair, Ralph Jones and Municipal Light Advisory Board (MLAB) Chair, Ashley Brown.

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**SUBSTATION PROJECT DISCUSSION**

The purpose of the joint meeting was to discuss the next steps for the 115 kV transmission line request for proposal process.

Mr. Palmer initiated the meeting discussion by giving an update on where BMLD is today with the 115 kV transmission line request proposal. Palmer stated that due to the new regulation "FERC 1000," which was put forth by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), it allows the BMLD to put out the bid for the transmission line to any interested "potential" transmission owners.

Mr. Palmer also informed the two boards that the BMLD and Substation Project Team are in the process of finalizing a letter to NSTAR requesting to meet together with them. Mr. Selgrade noted that once he receives the cost estimates from Allan Rice (Substation Project Owner's Engineer), the letter will be ready to be sent soon after receiving the cost estimates from Mr. Rice.

Mr. Palmer continued to deliver updates to the members present about the status of the Purchase and Sale (P & S) Agreement for 20 Flanders Road. He stated that the BMLD has not given the \$260,000 deposit to the owner yet due to pending legal work on the title involving the adjoining wall. He further stated that the adjoining wall is a non-issue and there are no

adverse effects (no additional costs). Mr. Palmer acknowledged that Jeanne McKnight (Kopelman & Paige) is working to resolve the inquires in the title and that she should be completed shortly with that. Additionally, he mentioned that the BMLD and Substation Project Team are working through the MBTA easement.

The discussion continued with Mr. Palmer talking about the bonding. He mentioned that the first Bond Anticipatory Note (BAN) is scheduled for spring 2012, and includes the purchase of the site (20 Flanders Road) and development costs to date. He discussed that there have been a lot of inquires from other Town Departments about when we (the BMLD) is planning to implement a rate increase. Mr. Palmer stated that the rate increase for all customers will not go into effect until April 2013.

Mr. Paolillo inquired if the rate increase was going to include the school department (and buildings) as well. Mr. Palmer confirmed that yes; it would include the school department.

Mr. Palmer discussed the need of a cost of service study that BMLD's rate consultants (LaCapra and Associates) will be executing before finalizing the amount that the rates will be increased.

Mr. Jones asked Mr. Palmer to confirm that the amount of the rate increase is undefined at this time until the cost of service study is completed.

Mr. Paolillo discussed the need of determining a decision matrix (Qualitative vs. Quantitative) for the substation project going forward. Additionally, Mr. Paolillo stated that he thought he would be a good idea for members of the Municipal Light Board, Municipal Light Advisory Board (MLAB) and/or the BMLD to give a brief report at the Annual Town Meeting in April (2012) on the Substation and where the project is at that time.

The meeting progressed with discussion of the Communication Plan going forward. Mr. Palmer and Ms. Santoro stated that there will be a section in the BMLD Quarterly Newsletter, *Power Connection*, on the substation and any updates there are. Additionally, the plan is to send out a written report to all BMLD customers as the project progresses with updates. Mr. Jones and Mr. Paolillo agreed this will work well communicating the information.

Mr. Palmer mentioned that the Energy Analyst has accepted the job offer that was made to her by the BMLD and plans to begin in the next two to three weeks.

Mr. Firenze stated that he thinks the Energy Analyst should sit on the Massachusetts Municipal Association (Energy) Committee, as well as the Belmont Energy Committee.

It was decided by both boards and the BMLD that setting up a joint meeting once a month that was televised would be sufficient to make sure the project information is being discussed regularly as well as give people the opportunity to view and listen to the meeting on TV.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting of the Belmont Municipal Light Board and the Belmont Municipal Advisory Board (MLAB) was adjourned at 9:35 AM by Mark Paolillo, Municipal Light Board and Ashley Brown, Municipal Light Advisory Board Chair.