

Meeting: April 11,2011

**TOWN OF BELMONT
MUNICIPAL LIGHT BOARD
TOWN HALL, SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM
MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2011 AT 6:00 PM**

OPENING: The meeting of the Belmont Municipal Light Board was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Ralph Jones at the Belmont Town Hall, Selectmen's Meeting Room.

MEMBER'S PRESENT:

Ralph Jones, LB

Jim Palmer, General Manager/CEO

Mark Paolillo, LB

Roger Colton, Belmont Energy Committee

Angelo Firenze, LB

Andy Greene, Greene Energy Co.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Belmont Municipal Light Board General Meeting Minutes for January 24,2011 were approved.

DISCUSSION OF SOLAR PANEL MATTER:

The purpose of the meeting was to present the Belmont Solar Initiative to the Municipal Light Board and to find ways to collaborate with the BMLD on moving forward with the project and making it a win for Belmont, its taxpayers, the BMLD and their ratepayer's. The Belmont Solar Initiative is a project launched by the Belmont Energy Committee to explore installing solar photovoltaic (PV) systems on the Belmont School Department and Municipal buildings. This gives the town an opportunity to reduce the town of Belmont's energy costs, reduce emissions and to be more of a Sustainable Belmont.

Andy Greene, the consultant on the project stated that there are numerous regulatory and tax incentives that make the solar photovoltaic (PV) financially

beneficial to the Town of Belmont. However, Greene stated that these incentives will not last and some expire at the end of the 2011 year. Therefore, moving forward with the project is a time sensitive matter in order to gain the tax benefits available. Greene also stated that the PV market is well established in Massachusetts with many excellent vendors, reliable projects and successful municipal projects in other communities such as Concord. The town would enter into a Purchase Power Agreement (PPA) which means the town would enter into a contract with a third party. The third party would take over the system and if there are any problems, they would be responsible for them. The town receives the benefits but a third party maintains it. The town would lease the space to a third party and they maintain the panels and are responsible for any damage. It was agreed that the discussion would later take place on Wednesday, April 13th when Roger Colton does his presentation on the solar panels to the Municipal Light Advisory Board (MLAB).

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned by Ralph Jones at 6:50 p.m.