

ASHLAND BOARD OF ELECTRIC COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

October 28, 2014
6 Collins Street
ASHLAND, NH
7:00 P.M.

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Kendall L. Hughes, Daniel Vaughn and Bobbi Hoerter
- OTHERS PRESENT:** Lee Nichols, Linda Pack, Normand DeWolfe and Sandra Coleman
- CALL TO ORDER:** Kendall called the Meeting of the Ashland Electric Commission to order at 7:03 P.M.
- MINUTES:**
- Dan made a motion to approve the minutes of October 14, 2014 as presented. Kendall seconded the motion. Kendall - yes, Dan - yes & Bobbi - Abstained.
- Bobbi made a motion to approve the minutes of September 23, 2014 as presented. Dan seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.
- OLD BUSINESS:**
- As discussed at the last meeting regarding the underestimated Transmission Recovery Charges, Lee suggested paying Northeast Utilities \$5,000.00 each month for the next 3 month's. This will help reduce the heavy interest charges we may encounter. Kendall felt we should pay at least \$7,500.00 for the next two month's. Lee will see if it is beneficial to change to \$7,500.00
- Lee advised the Board that the guards for the fans in the Utility Garage should be in today. This will take care of one of the items to be completed for the Primex safety inspection.
- The Lineman Chief Job recently posted has received no applicants in house so Lee will start advertising the position and requirements. Zip Recruiter is the Company Lee would like to use to narrow down the field of applicants. They will take all applications and put those that most closely match the requirements to the top of the list. Then Lee

can review the candidates and choose those he wishes to interview. The Commissioners agree to using this Company also.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lee has received information from VPPSA that as previously thought the Ashland Electric Department does not need to have 25% Green Power. We will have as much as possible but the Ashland Electric Department is exempt from the 25% rule.

Linda Guyotte is looking into the possibility of beginning to use Credit/Debit Cards for the Town Office and hopefully the Utility Office in the near future.

Lee advised the Commissioners that a problem with some trees on North Ashland Road has come up and he needs to call in Top Notch and their Crane to deal with it. Also he will have to order at least 15 Pole Mount Transformers. The cost will be around \$25,000. to \$30,000. dollars and they will be FR3 Oil Filled.

Normand DeWolfe spoke to the Electric Commissioners about the Town Personnel Policy Manual and some possible changes to the Policies for the Town. He asked for input from the Electric Commissioners regarding a dollar amount or percentage for Health Insurance Contributions. He also stated the possibility of charging Retirees 10% for their Health Insurance. Linda pack asked why they would charge 10% for Retirees who are on fixed incomes but charge less for employees. Normand also advised the Board that the tax rate would be going down to \$23.97.

Discussion regarding the Town Treasurer Salary and how it is paid from the Electric Department. Payment of invoices from the Town to the Electric Department also discussed.

Payroll & Accounts Payable Manifest Signed.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: Bobbi made a motion to go into Non-Public Session at 8:55 P.M. According to RSA 91A:3II(b) Personnel. Dan seconded the motion. Vote: Kendall - yes, Bobbi - yes and Dan - yes.

Lee Nichols made a proposal to post the Lineman #2 position. It was the consensus of the Board to agree with Mr. Nichols proposal.

Bobbi made a motion to adjourn the Non-Public Session at 9:20 P.M. Dan seconded the motion. Vote: Kendall - yes, Bobbi - yes and Dan - yes.

ADJOURNMENT: Bobbi made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 PM. Dan seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted

**Linda A. Pack
Ashland Electric Department**