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**Westfield Gas & Electric
Municipal Light Board
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 7, 2026**

WESTFIELD CITY CLERK

Location: Gas & Electric Operations Center, 40 Turnpike Industrial Rd. Conference Room, Westfield, MA

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Chairman Rivera stated that this meeting of the Municipal Light Board is being electronically recorded in both video and audio by the Municipal Light Board. As stated, in the WG+E MLB Video Policy the recording will be available on the WG+E website within one week. Is anyone, other than the Municipal Light Board, recording the meeting and if so state whether it is an audio or video recording and whether the recording is being live streamed.

I. ROLL CALL was taken as follows:

Present:

Ward #3 Commissioner, Dawn Renaudette
Ward #4 Commissioner, William Parks
Ward #5 Commissioner, Robert Goyette
Ward #6 Commissioner, Robert C. Sacco
Appointed Commissioner, A. Edward Roman
Ward #1 Commissioner, Tom Fanion
Ward #2 Commissioner, Ray Rivera

Present: 7 Absent: 0

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ELECTION OF CHAIR/ ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

On a motion made by Commissioner Sacco and seconded by Commissioner Rivera it was unanimously voted to elect Commissioner Parks as Chair of the Municipal Light Board.

Renaudette	"aye"
Parks	"aye"
Goyette	"aye"
Sacco	"aye"
Roman	"aye"
Fanion	"aye"
Rivera	"aye"

Motion passed: 7-0

On a motion made by Commissioner Roman and seconded by Commissioner Rivera it was unanimously voted to elect Commissioner Goyette as Vice-Chair of the Municipal Light Board.

Renaudette	"aye"
Parks	"aye"
Goyette	"aye"
Sacco	"aye"
Roman	"aye"
Fanion	"aye"
Rivera	"aye"

Motion passed: 7-0

IV. READING OF THE RECORD

On a motion made by Commissioner Rivera and seconded by Commissioner Goyette and based on a roll call vote it was unanimously

VOTED:

To accept the minutes of the December 3, 2025, regular session of the Municipal Light Board as presented.

Renaudette	"aye"
Parks	"aye"
Goyette	"aye"
Sacco	"aye"
Roman	"aye"
Kelleher	"aye"
Rivera	"aye"

Motion passed 7-0

V. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Commissioner Rivera requested a motion from the Board to extend public participation time for more than 3 minutes per person in order to honor the retirement of Commissioner Roman recognizing his eighteen years of dedication and knowledge to the Westfield Gas + Electric Municipal Light Board. Commissioner Fanion seconded the motion.

The General Manager shared a few words recognizing Commissioner Roman and how fortunate the Municipal Light Board has been to have his service for the past 18 years. Having previously served alongside him as a fellow commissioner before becoming General Manager, he spoke not only to Commissioner Edward Roman's dedication, but also to what a strong ally he has been to the department. His substantial finance background has been an invaluable asset over the years, and he will truly be missed.

Mark Messer, District Director for the Office of State Senator John Velis, then presented a citation on the Senator's behalf, expressing appreciation for Commissioner Roman's eighteen years of committed service on the Board.

State Representative Kelly Pease presented a citation on behalf of his office.

Commissioners Rivera, Renaudette, and Sacco expressed their appreciation for Commissioner Roman as a fellow Commissioner, noting his knowledge, professionalism, and thoughtful contributions to the Board. They highlighted the value of his insight and experience and thanked him for his years of dedicated service. Commissioner Renaudette added that Commissioner Roman encouraged her to run for Ward 3 Commissioner and gave her the confidence to follow through with that decision. She noted that she has now served on the Board for over six years, a role she credited in part to his support and mentorship.

Former Mayor Brian Sullivan was invited to give a few brief remarks. He emphasized that during his tenure as Mayor of Westfield, he consistently supported and appointed Ed to serve on the Municipal Light Board. Mayor Sullivan spoke to the value of Ed's strong finance background and how beneficial it was to WG+E and the City. He concluded by thanking Ed for his many years of dedication, service, and support.

VI. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE GAS AND ELECTRIC

- a) **Acknowledgement- CHD Cancer House of Hope**
Margaret Toomey, Program Director for CHD sent a letter to the General Manager thanking Westfield Gas + Electric for supporting the Cancer House of Hope's 2025 Luminara.
- b) **Acknowledgement-YMCA of Greater Westfield**
Andrea Allard, CEO of the YMCA, sent a thank you letter to the General Manager for the generous support and sponsorship received from Westfield Gas + Electric for their 10th Annual Cycle for a Cause.
- c) **Acknowledgement-Kevin J. Sullivan Sponsorship Festival**
The Sullivan family sent a thank you card for the continued support and generosity of Westfield Gas + Electric for the Kevin J. Sullivan Sponsorship festival.
- d) **Acknowledgement-Westfield Public Schools, Southampton Road School PTO**
Southampton PTO sent a thank you letter to Westfield G+E with heartfelt appreciation for the energy credit donations for their annual SRS Quarter Auction held on 11/7/25.
- e) **Acknowledgement-Westfield Intermediate School**
Westfield Intermediate School class sent a thank you card for sponsoring the Lego Robotics' team and donating WG+E t shirts to the class.
- f) **Acknowledgement-Aidelisa Carrasco-Pacheao, 22 Maple Street, Westfield**
Aidelisa Carrasco sent a thank you note to the Customer Service Manager in appreciation of the donation received to her account from the Westfield Warm program.
- g) **Acknowledgement-Joelle Thibodo, 11 Second Ave, Westfield**
Joelle Thibodo sent an email thanking WG+E for the \$25.00 holiday discount received on residents' December bill.
- h) **Acknowledgement-Lillian Ashton, 119 Birch Bluff Dr., Westfield**
Lillian Ashton sent an email thanking WG+E for the \$25.00 credit reflecting their December bill.
- i) **Alex Guerra, Associate Lineman Fiber Technician**
Customer Compliments:
 1. **Erin Kowalczyk, 303 Old Pond Rd., Becket, Ma**
Erin rated her overall experience receiving Whip City Fiber to her home as excellent. Alex was friendly and informative during the installation.
 2. **Ben Murray, 4 Norman Rd., Buckland, Ma**
Ben rated his overall experience receiving Whip City Fiber as excellent. Alex was professional, knowledgeable, and thorough.
 3. **Heath Trudell, 230 High Meadow Dr., West Spfld., Ma**
Heath rated his overall experience receiving Whip City Fiber as excellent. Alex was excellent, thorough, and pleasant to work with.

j) Scot Stebbins, Associate Lineman Fiber Technician

Customer Compliments:

1. Scott Thomas, 9 Woronoco Rd., Blandford, Ma

Scott rated his overall experience receiving Whip City Fiber as excellent. Scot was very professional, knowledgeable, and used extreme care while installing the equipment to his home.

k) Bradley Brown, Telecom Installer Technician

Customer Compliment:

1. Sean Herlihy, 26 Westwood Dr., West Spfld., Ma

Sean rated his overall experience receiving Whip city Fiber as excellent. Bradley was very helpful with knowledge of the system.

2. Mark and Irene DeJackome, 110 High Meadow Dr., West Spfld. Ma

Mark and Irene sent an email to customer service, expressing how impressed they were with Bradley's knowledge and professionalism installing Whip City Fiber to in their home.

3. Dave Roy, 11 Union St., Westfield

Dave rated his overall experience receiving Whip City Fiber as excellent. Bradley was phenomenal, professional, and did a great job installing internet to his home.

VII. REPORTS FROM THE GAS & ELECTRIC

A. Action Required

a) Sub-Committee Assignment Review-Tom Flaherty

Chairman Parks suggested moving the Sub-Committee assignments to the February 4, 2025 Municipal Light Board meeting, which was unanimously agreed upon by all Commissioners.

b) Preliminary 2026 MLB Meeting Schedule-Tom Flaherty

The General Manager presented the 2026 schedule of the monthly Municipal Light Board meetings to the Commissioners.

c) Quarterly Power Line Publication-Tom Flaherty

The General Manager highlighted topics included in the publication including winter safety and ventilation of gas meters, financial assistance program availability and utility rate and cost comparison for 2025.

d) Human Resources Quarterly Status Report- Robin Krok

The HR Coordinator provided the Board with the quarter 4 status report detailed below:

October

IT Co-op student effective 10/14/25 (hire)

Edward Riordan effective 10/6/25 (retirement)

November

Jamal Redding, GDMA effective 11/4/25 (resignation)

The department is in the process of filling the following positions:

Controls Electrician
Customer Service Representative
Desktop Technician
Gas Distribution Maintenance
Business Office Representative

e) Network Management Annual Report-John Leary

The Director of Information Technology provided the Board with a brief summary of the report on performance measures related to the reliability of the WG+E network within and between WG+E-owned facilities. Overall network uptime remained at 100.00% throughout 2025. Despite several small but significant storms impacting Western Massachusetts, the Network Operations Center remained fully operational.

f) Telecommunications Services Reliability Report-John Leary

The Director of Information Technology provided the Board with a brief summary of the performance measurements regarding the reliability of the WG+E Westfield Metropolitan Area Network, which serves Commercial & Industrial, Municipal, and WG+E Community Partners. Overall, in 2025 the network operated properly for 99.988% of the required time. The downtime experienced in June was due to an electrical issue at One Fed Springfield.

g) 99 Medeiros Way Update (verbal)-Tom Flaherty

The General Manager gave an update to the Board on the new building at 99 Medeiros Way the General Contractor went out to bid, and the award went to Western Builders Inc. the project will be moving forward the following week, and the anticipated date of completion will be at the end of Q4 in 2026.

h) Quarterly Gas and Electric Residential Rate Comparison-Keziah Bednarsky

The Energy Supply Manager gave the gas and electric residential rate comparison for Q3 as of September 2025.

i) Energy Supply Outlook (verbal)-Keziah Bednarsky

The Energy Supply Manager for Natural Gas gave the following monthly update to the Board.

US natural gas in storage totaled 3.379 Tcf for the week ending January 2nd, reflecting a withdrawal of 119 Bcf. This figure aligned with market expectations but was significantly higher than last year's withdrawal of 52 Bcf and the five-year average of 92 Bcf. As a result, inventories now stand 3.6% below last year and 1% above the five-year average, effectively doubling the year-over-year deficit and halving the surplus to the five-year average in a single week.

US natural gas futures surged in early December amid a cold start to winter but have since moderated. Market dynamics continue to be pulled between high LNG export growth, weather patterns, large withdrawals from storage, and strong production levels.

In Europe, Dutch TTF futures have continued to decline, reflecting weaker demand and increased LNG imports. Between fairly stabilized supply and mild weather, overall fundamentals have steadied for the time being and maintained downward pressure on prices.

Zone-6 winter gas is trading at \$14.47/Dth for January 2027, down from an earlier spike driven by lower temperatures in the Northeast. Day-ahead peak power pricing is at \$133/MWh for January 2027, also retreating from prior highs following the gas market. The Department continues to monitor both domestic and international market trends daily to identify strategic hedging opportunities for the coming years.

j) Monthly Financial Reports-Jamie Naughton

The Director of Finance provided the following monthly financial update to the Board for the Gas, Electric, and Telecom divisions for the month of November.

The Gas Division reported a net loss of \$1.148MM, which was \$358K higher than the originally projected loss of \$790K. This variance was primarily driven by gas rate revenues coming in above expectations due to higher sales volumes. These gains were offset by supply costs that exceeded the original budget as a result of peaking demand charges. A portion of these costs will also be reflected in next month's financials. The Electric Division reported a net loss of \$80K, compared to the initial forecasted gain of \$487K, resulting in a difference of \$567K. Electric rate revenues came in below budget, while power supply costs exceeded projections due to higher daily electricity prices. In addition, general and administrative expenses were higher than expected, largely due to the timing of vendor invoices.

The Telecom Division reported a net income of \$353K, which was \$5K below budget. Revenues exceeded expectations due to conservative budgeting; however, this was offset by higher-than-expected general and administrative expenses, driven by the timing of vendor invoices. Stabilization Fund contributions continue at \$50K per month for the Gas Division and \$25K per month for the Electric Division. Actuarial entries related to OPEB and Pension expenses, which have been incorporated into the financials over the past several months, continue to be reflected through year-end. These entries add approximately \$50K in monthly expenses, allocated across all divisions.

As we approach year-end, the timing of invoices becomes more impactful as the department works to ensure vendor costs are received and recorded within the current fiscal year. This can result in expense fluctuations that are timing-related rather than reflective of ongoing operating trends.

Overall financial performance remains steady across all divisions. While revenues and supply costs fluctuate month to month, continued cost controls and conservative budgeting help support the department's overall financial position.

B. Informational Items

- a) **Utility Issues-** as presented.
- b) **Utility News-** as presented.
- c) **Utility Courses Update-** as presented.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

X. ADJOURNMENT

On the motion made by Commissioner Rivera and seconded by Commissioner Renaudette it was;

VOTED: To adjourn the regular meeting of the Municipal Light Board meeting.

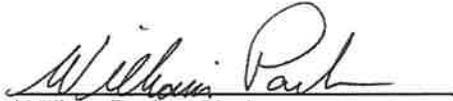
Renaudette	"aye"
Parks	"aye"
Goyette	"aye"
Sacco	"aye"
Roman	"aye"
Fanion	"aye"
Rivera	"aye"

Motion passed 7-0

Chairman Parks declared the regular session portion of the meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

A TRUE RECORD.

Attest:


William Parks, Chairman

