

**Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light
Department
Board of Commissioners**



March 6, 2024

NOTICE OF MEETING
WAKEFIELD MUNICIPAL LIGHT & GAS DEPARTMENT BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS

DATE: March 6, 2024
CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 P.M.
LOCATION: 480 North Ave, Wakefield, MA 01880

This meeting will be in person at 480 North Ave in Wakefield. The public is NOT required to physically attend this meeting. Every effort will be made to allow the public to view and or listen to the meeting in real time. Persons who wish to do so are invited to click on the following link to register for the Zoom Meeting. Once you register for the meeting, you will be sent a link to join Zoom Meeting.

The meeting registration link is:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAqde-orz8oEtQe0v7Bc1-PzYys5A0MzBqP>

Please only use dial in or computer and not both as feedback will distort the meeting when joining the meeting.

**WMGLD BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
480 North Ave
Wakefield, Massachusetts 01880**

**March 6, 2024
6:30 PM
AGENDA**

- A. **Call to Order**

- B. **Opening Remarks**
 - Chair's Remarks – Jack Warchol
 - Commissioners Reports
 - Town Council Liaison Comments
 - Public Comments

- C. **Secretary's Report**
 - 1 Approval of February 7, 2024 Minutes

- D. **Old Business**
 - 1 Project Updates
 - A. Energy Park
 - 2 Gas Department Annual Update Presentation – Jim Brown and Raven Fournier
 - 3 Community Solar – Update
 - 4 Strategic Planning
 - 5 Review of 2023 and Establishment of 2024 Goals and Objectives

- E. **New Business**

- E **Any other matter not reasonably anticipated by the Chair**

- F **Executive Session- If Necessary**

- G **Adjournment**

WMGLD
P.O. BOX 190 480 North Ave.
Wakefield, MA 01880
Tel. (781) 246-6363 Fax (781)
246-0419



John J. Warchol, Chair
Elton Prifti, Secretary
Thomas Boettcher
Jennifer Kallay
Sharon Daly

Peter D. Dion, General Manager

**WAKEFIELD MUNICIPAL GAS & LIGHT DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF GAS & LIGHT COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

February 7, 2024

IN ATTENDANCE:

Comms., Chair Jack Warchol
Jennifer Kallay
Thomas Boettcher
Sharon Daly

Peter Dion, General Manager, WMGLD
Mark Cousins, Finance Manager
Dave Polson, Engineering and Operations Manager
Vinnie McMahon, Senior System Engineer
Paul Redmond, Electric Superintendent
Abderr Chlih, Intern- Ben Franklin Institute of Technology
Joe Collins, Business Analyst- Energy Services
Sylvia Vaccaro, Minute Secretary

Justin Connell, MWWEC
Ryan Martin, MMWEC

Julie Smith Galvin, Town Council Liaison

PLACE:

**480 North Ave., Wakefield, MA
& ZOOM MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER:

Commr. Warchol called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and advised the meeting was being recorded.

CHAIR REMARKS:

None

COMMISSIONERS REMARKS:

Commr. Daly stated that Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Kara Mauro emailed the Board advising them that she and Julie Smith Galvin will be having a meeting in reference to capital planning and investments for the following schools HVAC systems: Woodville, Dolbeare, Greenwood, and Doyle. These schools were included in the Energy Reduction Plan that was filed for Massachusetts Green Communities. Pete noted that WMGLD was involved in the initial preparation of the report to be considered for Green Communities. Vinnie stated that he already signed up to attend.

TOWN COUNCIL LIASON:

None

Public Comments

None

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Approval of the January 10, 2024, minutes was before the Board for approval.

A motion to approve the January 10, 2024, minutes with the comments submitted by Commr Daly was made by Commr. Daly and seconded by Commr. Warchol.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously 4-0.

Old Business

Project Updates

Energy Park

Pete stated that the State sent back the proposal requiring 3 items to be completed for the easement.

- The Conservation easement for the land behind Beebe Station has been voted on by the Conservation Committee and is going back to Town Council this week.
- The former Burns Station site is currently undergoing cleanup for contamination, which should be complete during the 1st or 2nd quarter this year. The preliminary plan for the park, which

was reviewed by the DPW will be forwarded to Town Council. Construction would start in the 3rd or 4th quarter this year.

- Planting on Maple Way- WMGLD's arborist presented a tree planting plan for reforestation to the DPW for review and approval with September being the best time for planting.

Pete stated that WMGLD will be extending lines on Hemlock Road this summer while the schools are not in session.

MMWEC Power Supply Discussions – Justin Connell, Ryan Martin

Justin discussed WMGLD's power portfolio that comprised of short-term hedging that was put in place to protect against 2022 winter's demand for gas. He noted that natural gas sets the price of power in New England. Natural gas costs have increased significantly over the last couple of years coming out of covid and because of the war in Ukraine. He stated that a significant pricing risk exists for New England winters considering generator fleet oil inventories and international LNG pricing. He said this was highlighted by ISO New England's public statements about reliability concerns for the following winter and having rolling blackouts. As a result, power purchases were made at a higher level coming in at \$115.00 per megawatt hour. The main takeaway is that prices are coming down to pre-pandemic levels. ISO forgot to include potential LNG tanker delivery into the region, which when factored in eliminates the risk of potential rolling blackouts, thereby taking a large risk off the table. 2023 saw prices drop to around \$107.00 per megawatt hour with projected 2024 prices to be around \$93.00 per megawatt hour. Wakefield should see cost relief and stability going forward. He noted that with the supply and demand balancing out on the natural gas side there is higher storage number, so there is going to be enough gas for power generation purposes. Justin spoke about meeting the 2030 non-carbon emitting goals and electrification. He discussed MMWEC looking to optimize resources to accommodate an increase in electric sales and a possible shift of peaks from summer to winter months. Commr. Kallay inquired if he had a projected date when the system would be winter peaking. Justin stated in the early 2030 period. Commr. Boettcher inquired how MMWEC and ISO New England will handle winter peaks and maintenance issues on generating units. Pete mentioned that maintenance in New England occurs in April thru June, and then September and October only. ISO does not plan outages during the period of December 15th – March 15th. Justin said ISO's Paper Performance Program will fine a generating unit \$5500 per megawatt hour if they are not online or available when there is a system constraint. Those that are penalized are required to pay those who are over performing. Commr. Kallay asked if Justin would be able to add a slide that has key metrics as to how we are tracking against what was forecasted for load growth. Justin stated that he will look into this to see what other key metrics he can put together.

Electric Department Annual Update Presentation – Vinnie McMahon and Paul Redmond

Vinnie McMahon, Senior System Engineer and Paul Redmond, Electric Superintendent, provided the Board with a review of the 2023 Project Calendar and an overview of the 2024-2025 Project Calendar.

Vinnie discussed the status of the following projects:

- Burns Sub soil remediation – in progress
- Solar on 480 North Ave – 95% complete
- Beebe Sub Relay Upgrade – 50% complete
- Meter/CT Inspections – 75% complete
- Time of use meter program created - 5 have been installed to date
- Applied for, and awarded, the APPA RP3 Award

Paul reviewed the following 2023 construction projects with the Board:

- North Ave Pole Relocation complete
- Pole replacement program – ongoing
- Hurricane Preparation
- Reclosers – Installed 3
- 3 New Switch Installations
- Circuit 9 Water St Conversion- Complete
- Preston St Conversion Complete
- Open Wire Secondary Replacements
- Tarrant Ln Apartments - Complete 40

Vinnie advised the Board of the 2024-2025 Project Calendar

- 480 North Ave Solar Aug 23 –Apr 24 – May start some commissioning this week.
- Beebe Relay Upgrade Nov 23–Mar 2024 – Upgrading so it is similar to the Wallace substation. Will be able to allow reverse power flow during peak- shaving.
- CT + Meter Inspection Nov 23-Mar 24 – Inspecting each meter and testing all CT installations.
- Quannapowitt Pkwy Reconfiguration Feb-Dec 2024 -Dave noted that the customer is building the utility infrastructure with 3200 ft of conduit and setting 6 manholes. Scheduled to be completed in 2025. The overhead from Honeydew will be converted to underground. WMGLD is installing

the section of conduit from the last customer installed manhole down to our existing manhole.

- Burns Sub Soil Remediation April-July 2024 – Some PCB contamination waiting for the State to approve our plan.
- Hemlock Rd conduit work and temp services to schools June-Sep 2024
- Energy Park All 2024-2025

Vinnie explained the continuing work at The Energy Park, Northeast Metro Tech & Wakefield High School for the period 2022-2026

Energy Park:

- Major long lead-time equipment has been ordered.
- Site clearing is expected to begin this winter.
- Site plans for Energy Park site in progress
- Energy Park site work - bidding Q2, Construction Q3/Q4
- Operating procedure is nearing completion.
- Working with MMWEC and Delorean on battery storage system

- Hemlock Rd conduit plan complete –Work Scheduled July/August 2024 when schools are not in session.
- Solar plans for both schools are 90% complete – awaiting final adjustments to roof designs
- Site plans for both schools are 90% complete and temp service work is scheduled for this summer
- NEMT – Student occupancy September 2026
- WMHS – Student occupancy January 2027

Dave spoke about WMGLD's workforce development partnerships with surrounding schools and universities such as: Northeast Metro Tech, Bentley College, Ben Franklin Cummings Institute of Technology, and Bunker Hill Community College. Pete noted that more than one third of WMGLD's workforce has come from these programs. Dave discussed the potential load growth with the continued electrification and the impact on our system's capacity. He noted that WMGLD is well situated for potential load growth because of the work that has been done at the substation and distribution level. Pete stated that we are well suited because of Wallace Substation upgrade that brought additional capacity to the system which set us up for the next 20 30 years to digest the load growth during this time. Dave noted that the substations and distribution is constantly monitored.

He mentioned that we also need to be able to track growth on a secondary level. He explained to the Board that WMGLD is now requiring customers who want to upgrade their service, add a heat pump, or add an EV charger complete an online service request application. This application will be forwarded to WMGLD Engineering department, so they will be able to determine the impact of the

additional electrification and if there needs to be any upgrades or modifications. Once the Engineering department signs off on this the customer will be given a service request number that is required for the permit application. Commr. Kallay inquired as to the timing of this process and what would happen if the customer is dealing with an emergency situation. Dave noted that the customer would never be delayed during an emergency and the normal turn around time is one day.

Abderr reviewed the secondary guidelines.

- When replacing open wire #4 – Replace with 3x4/0 triplex
- Increase standard transformer size from 37.5kva to 50kva
- As load develops increase 50kva to 75kva on 3x4/0 secondary cribs
- Replace and upgrade poles to accommodate larger transformers
- Maximum of 10 houses on a 3x4/0 triplex crib with 50kva or 75kva transformer
- Maximum of 5 houses on a 3x2/0 triplex crib with 50kva transformer
- Design is based on 20 years projected load growth

Abderr explained that approved service requests are added into the GIS system utilizing different color symbols for what is being added. Commr. Boettcher asked if WMLGD is capturing anyone that is adding central air. Dave explained we are not at this time, but Vinnie runs reports all the time and will be able to tell of any changes or shifts in load. He also noted that we can access that information from central air rebates. Dave noted that we oversize the cable and can always go in and upgrade a transformer to handle growth. Commr. Kallay asked if transformers are recycled. Dave responded that if a transformer is removed and a larger one is installed the removed transformer will be put back in stock for future use. Commr. Daly asked about plans for asset condition work. Dave commented that WMGLD replaces 10,000 feet of wire a year and replaces the smaller size wire with 4/0. Commr. Boettcher thanked the team for the all the work that went into this presentation and for everything they do every day.

Community Solar

Joe noted that there are over 40 customers who signed up for 136 kw with an average of 3 kw. The breakdown is 136 kw for non-low income and 5 kw for low-income. He stated that he will be sending out a mailer targeting the low-income segment. There is a Zoom info session planned for February 8, 2024. Pete said they may also conduct another in person info session. Commr. Warchol asked how mailers were sent out for the in-person info session because he received a complaint from a customer because money was spent on a separate mailer. Mark explained that it was a timing issue. Some people received an insert in their bill or an email if they are on e-bill, while others received mailers because they were going to be billed after the meeting took place. Pete said that the ribbon cutting for the Ken Chase Community Solar Program will be held in May 2024.

Strategic Planning

The Board discussed the goals and initiatives. Commr. Daly stated that she feels some goals could be initiatives and tucked under other goals. The Commrs' debated and arrived at the following goals:

- Supply - Develop and implement a 2030 energy supply transition plan driving towards the 2050 net zero energy goal.
- Elect /Gas system – Build our infrastructure to be prepared for the next zero energy goal.
- Customer - Address customer barriers and needs to drive electrification of buildings and transportation.
- Workforce – Develop the energy workers of 2030 and beyond.
- Funding Sources- Maximize diverse funding sources in order to lower customer costs.

Each Commissioner took one goal to develop:

- Supply – Commr. Kallay
- Elect/Gas system – Commr. Prifti
- Customer – Commr. Warchol
- Workforce – Commr. Boettcher
- Funding – Commr. Daly

Pete will forward the Commissioners developments to Jon Wortmann before the next strategic meeting on March 20, 2024.

2023/2024 Goals & Objectives

Commr. Warchol and Commr. Daly will form the subcommittee to discuss, develop, and propose 2024 goals. They will also review last years' performance. Pete and his team will prepare the results from the 2023 goals.

Any other matter not reasonably anticipated by the Chair

A motion to adjourn was made at 9:22 pm by Commr. Kallay and seconded by Commr. Boettcher.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously 4-0.



JANUARY 2024 WMGLD COMMISSIONER'S DASHBOARD

Outages (Elec)

	<u>SAIFI</u>	<u>CAIDI</u>
Nov	0.43	57
Dec	0.61	66
Jan	0.39	34
Cal YTD	0.39	34

CYTD Pipe Replacement

	<u>Replaced</u>	<u>System Total</u>
4"	6,777	169,951
6"	10	156,441
8"	-	84,329

New Services on the System

	<u>Electric</u>	<u>Gas</u>
Nov	6	1
Dec	2	4
Jan	4	1

Solar Generation 90 Customers

	<u>Generated</u>	<u>Back to WMGLD</u>
CYTD	81,597	20,263
Comm'l	9,905,027	1,862,408
Res	3,179,095	1,847,145
Inception	13,084,122	4,066,645

Monthly & Annual Peaks

	<u>Prior Year</u>	<u>Current Year</u>
Nov	22.4 Mw	23.5 Mw
Dec	26.5 Mw	25.4 Mw
Jan	25.3 Mw	26.5 Mw

Summer YTD Peak

	<u>8/5/22</u>	<u>9/7/23</u>
	41.3 Mw	39.3 Mw

Winter YTD Peak

	<u>2/3/23</u>	<u>1/7/24</u>
	27.7 Mw	26.5 Mw

All Time Peak

	<u>1/2/14</u>	<u>8/2/06</u>
	36.5 Mw	50.7 Mw

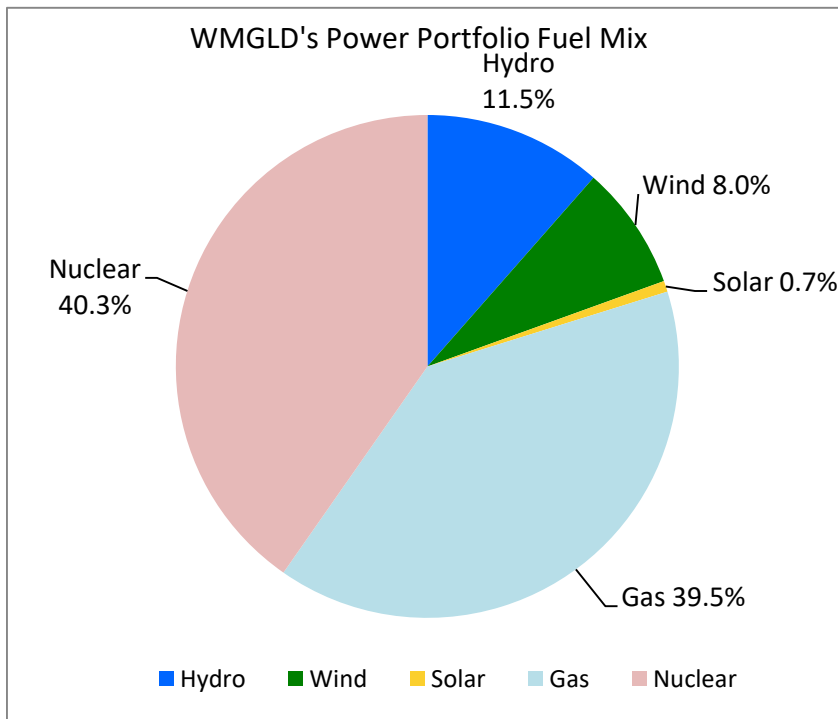
CONSERVATION BUDGET

YTD FY24 Conservation Revenue Billed	\$	415,121
YTD FY24 Paid out to Customers:		
270 Appliances & Thermostats	\$	(15,871)
43 Air Sealing (insulation/windows)		(43,660)
71 Heating & Cooling		(83,510)
10 Residential Solar		(129,242)
102 Cordless Yard Equipment	\$	(5,202)

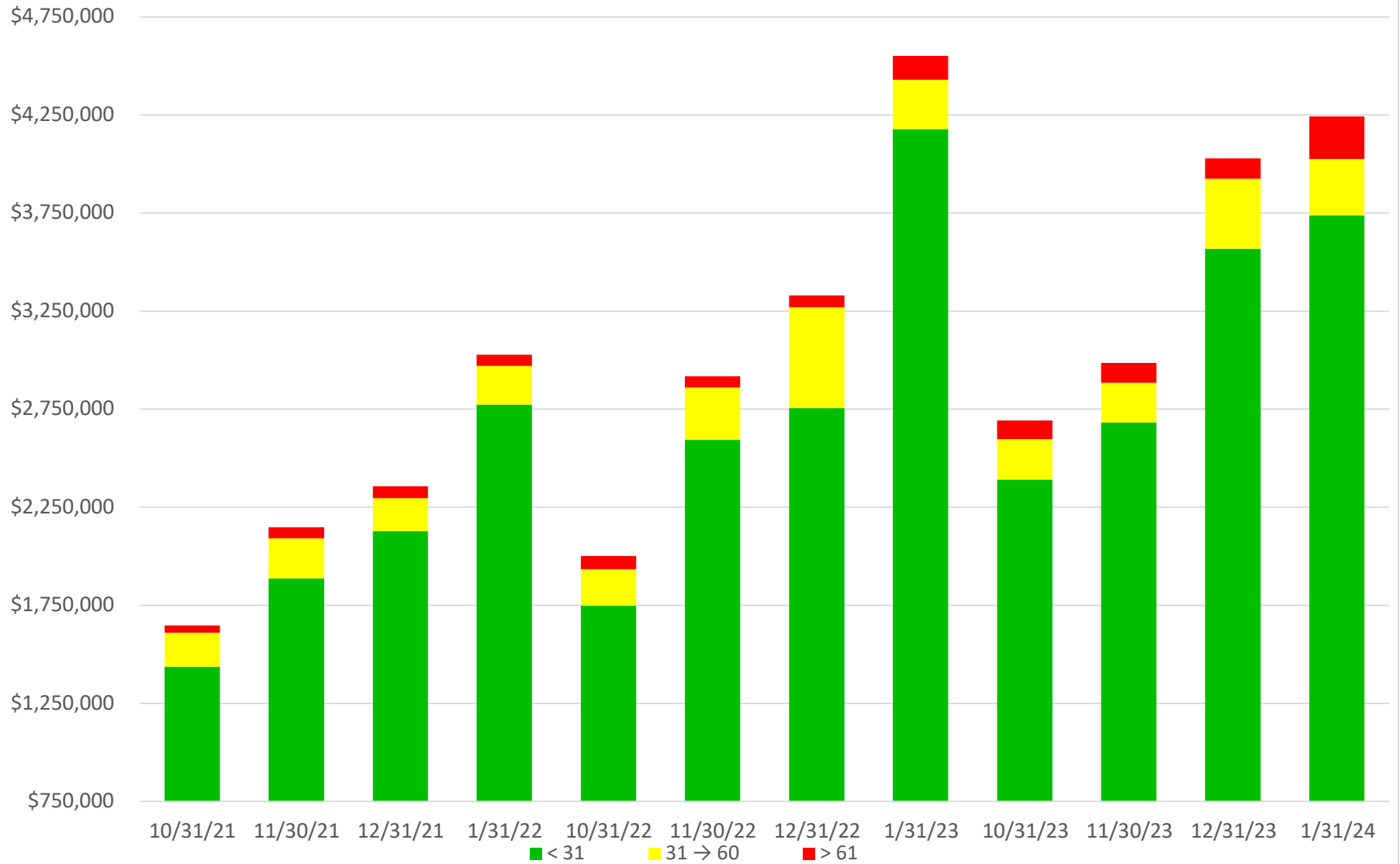
<u>GREEN CHOICE RATE</u>	<u>Jan</u>	<u>CYTD</u>
Green Choice Revenues	\$ 1,265	\$ 1,265
KwH billed on GC Rate	68,958	68,958
Number of Customers		103

Natural Gas Peak Usage

Current Year Peak (Nov '23 → May '24)	878,703 CCF
Prior Year Peak (Nov '22 → May '23)	1,001,593 CCF
All-Time Peak - Jan '18	1,370,554 CCF



Receivables Aging - As of January 31, 2024



Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Dashboard – February 2024

Lincoln St. - level 3 (1 plug)

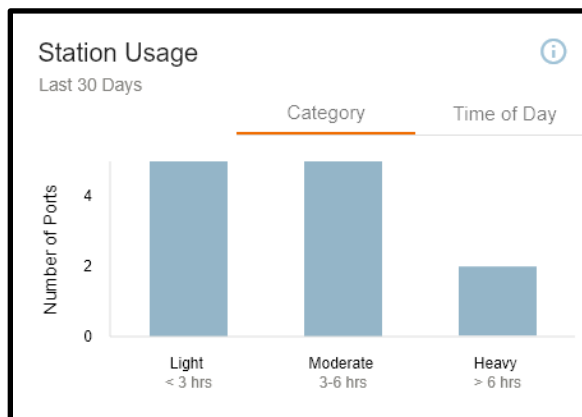
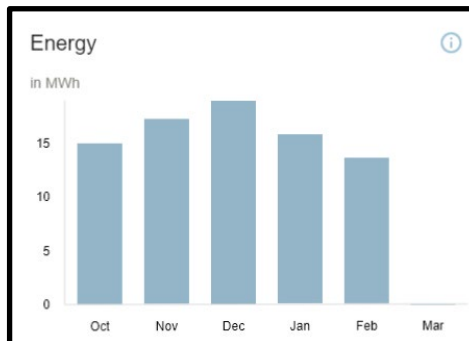
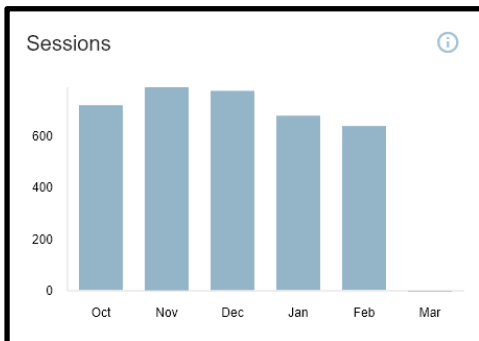
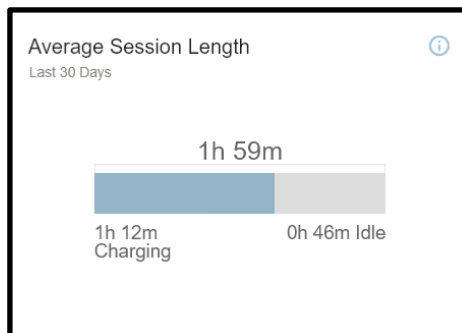
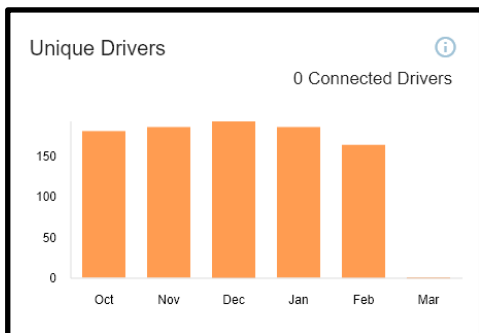
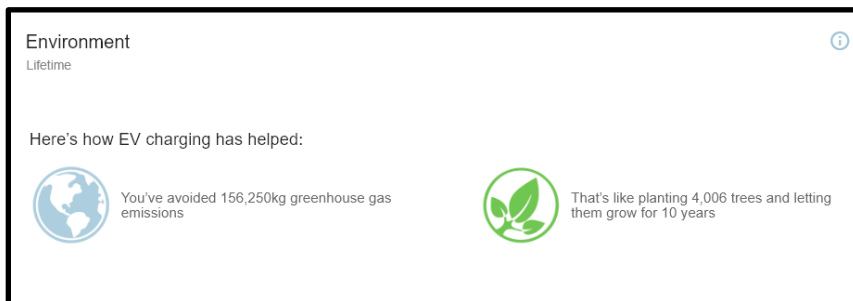
Civic Center – Level 2 (2 plugs)

Vets Field – Level 2 (2 plugs)

Quannapowitt Pkwy @ Lowell St – Level 3 (2 plugs)

North Ave Garage – level 2 (4 plugs)

North Ave Garage – level 3 (1 plug)



EV Charging Stations				
Utility Billing and Town Revenue				
Feb-24				
Locations	Utility Billing	KWh	Town Revenue From Charge Point	KWh
Vets Field	\$75.99	311	\$68.61	305
Civic Center	\$186.14	846	\$190.30	846
Public Parking Lot	\$865.65	3977	\$1,386.31	3851
Totals	\$1,127.78	5134	\$1,645.22	5001
EV Charging Stations				
Usage and Revenue				
Feb-24				
Locations			Revenue From Charge Point	KWh
Quannapowitt			\$3,327.15	8501

COMMISSIONER REQUESTS LOG

	Requested By	Request Date	Completion Date
Provide Environmental Sustainability Committee with Consumption data	JK	10/24/22	11/29/22
Analysis on Gas Consumption since Moritorium and Heat Pump Program	JK	1/14/23	2/3/23
Webpage for Energy Park on our website	TB, JK	2/8/23	3/3/23
Create Separate Rates Tab on Website	JW, TB	3/8/23	3/29/23
Share Community Solar Design Spreadsheet	JW, TB	6/21/23	7/7/23
Presentation on ISO-NE Load Shedding Requirements	JW	9/6/23	In progress
Update Community Solar Powerpoint	JW, SD, TB	12/6/23	12/28/23

Wakefield Municipal Gas & Light Department Customer Issues Log

Date	Issue	Resolution
January 26, 2024	Customer expressed dissaproval that gas could not be brought to her house. Customer has indicated an interest in joining WMGLD board meetings to learn more about why she cannot receive gas.	WMGLD has informed the customer that no new gas lines are being installed. The policy is in line with state and local decarbonization goals. WMGLD will answer any questions the customer has in open session.
April 5, 2023	Customer on Gumwood joined board meeting in regards to opposing an additional potential streetlight desired by customer who reached out in November 29, 2022 customer issue.	WMGLD informed customer that streetlight placement must be dealt with through the town, and that WMGLD has added LED lights to brighten current streetlighting on Gumwood.
February 15, 2023	Customer contacted board of commissioners and WMGLD management with concerns about increase in natural gas prices.	WMGLD met with the customer to discuss the driving factors that lead to gas supply rate. In addition, referred customer to November 2022 board meeting with our gas supplier.
January 24, 2023	Customer reached out with a service issue.	WMGLD is currently working to resolve this issue with customer.
November 29, 2022	Customer reached out with a concern about appropriate lighting of street lights on Gumwood.	WMGLD replaced streetlights with LEDs and was prepared additional street lights, however residents pushed back on this addition.

General Manager's Report

The following is the General Managers Report for March, 2024

Engineering and Operations Report

Major New Customer Projects

Working:

- **610 Salem St.** – New 34 unit apartment building – **Working**
- **404 Lowell St.** – 8 Residential units – **Working**
- **330 Salem St.** – 19 Residential units – **Working**
- **200 Quannapowitt** – 440 Apartments / 3 buildings / parking garage – **Working**
 - **Building Demolition/Disconnect** – **Q2- 2023 (Complete)**
 - **WMGLD installing conduit on QP to meet customer installed MH** – **Working**
 - **Site contractor Installing 6 MHs, 3200' of ductback, 2 switch bases and 4 transformer foundations** - **Working**
 - **Temporary Power** – Q1/2024
 - **Permanent Power**
 - **Building 1** – 8/1/2025 64 units
 - **Building 3a** – 1/26/2026 160 units and garage
 - **Building 3b** – 4/20/2026 130 units
 - **Building 2** – 7/22/2026 86 units
 - **Full Occupancy:** Q3 2026
- **62 Foundry Street phase 2** – 55 unit condo complex and commercial space – **Working**
- **596 North Ave** – 38 Residential Apartments – **Working**

Permitting:

- **97-99 Water St** – 5 Residential Apartments – **Permitting Phase – ON HOLD**
- **10 Broadway St.** - 124 Residential apartments – **Permitting Stage**
- **46 Crescent St.** - 56 Residential units – **Permitting Stage**
- **184 Water St** – 8 Residential units and commercial – **Permitting**

Planning:

- **369 – 371 Main St** – 20 residential apartments and rehab of the existing commercial space (former Santander Bank – on-hold)
- **460-472 Main St** – 16 residential apartments and commercial space (former Molise Building)
- **Albion St @ Lake St.** - 9 unit apartment building – **Planning stage**
- **127 Nahant St.** – 26 Residential units proposed – **Planning stage**
- **1000 Main Street** – 30 Residential units proposed – **Planning stage**

- **525-527 Salem St** – New 22-unit building – **On-Hold**
- **32 Nahant St** – 32 Units
- **100 Nahant St** – 100 Units

Gas Department

- Gas main and services upgrades continued in the Quannapowitt and Lakeview area.
- 237 meters were replaced so far this year with a target of 1238 for the year.
- There are currently 1848 inside gas services and 3305 outside services. 11 services have been moved outside this year.
- Leaks Class 1 – 0* Class 2 – 0 Class 3 –36

Financial Reports

Monthly Financials for through January and Consumption Reports through January are enclosed.

Project Updates

Energy Park:

- **Bill H3995 – update: Signed by the Governor on November 14, 2023 – COMPLETE**
- **Town Council meeting – 12/11 to sign easement**
- **Conservation Commission - accepted easement on 1/2/2023**
- **Generator Bid: Awarded**
- **Switchgear Bid: Awarded**
- **Padmount switches : Bid awarded**
- **Finalizing the operating plan, design and engineering documents – Working**
- **Meetings with battery vendor Delorean and MMWEC to finalize contract language**

NEMT:

- Meeting as needed with the NEMT design team and OPMs
- Poles and associated wire relocated to facilitate the construction of the access road – **COMPLETED**
- Temporary Services provided for construction trailers – **COMPLETED**
- Finalized the permanent utility service design – **COMPLETED**
- Solar design- working with Zapotec Energy and NEMT design team – **Completed**
- Procurement process for long lead time items – (3) Transformers – **Award 1/15/2024**
- Temporary construction power – **March 2024**
- Permanent power -**January 2026**
- Occupancy - **September 2026**

WMHS:

- Meetings held bi-weekly with the WMHS design team and OPMs
- Working with design team on permanent power design – **WORKING**
- Solar design- working with Zapotec Energy and WMHS design team – **Completed**
- Procurement process for long lead time items – (3) Transformers – **Award 1/15/2024**
- Temporary service for construction of the new building – **July 2024**
- Permanent and emergency power for testing and commissioning: **2026**
- Substantial completion / occupancy: **Students and Staff January 2027**

Major Projects:

Solar Projects:

- 480 North Ave. – **COMPLETE**

Convert remaining 2 MAT type enclosures to Padmount or OH construction

- Lowell at Vernon – Customer moved outage to Spring of 2024
- 50 Audubon Rd - - scheduled Q2/Q3 2024

Electric Meter Inspections - Progress

- Residential – in progress 11,620 of 13,754 meters inspected, 88% complete
 - 2393 had missing or cut seals - 20% (list has been provided to Building Dept.)
 - 2039 have been re-inspected and new seals installed
 - 1 theft of current found
 - 1 meter & socket that needed immediate attention.
 - 4 customer services found in poor condition – pictures and information provided to wiring inspector and homeowner contacted
- Commercial – CT Testing: 92 of 149 locations inspected and tested, 61.7% completed

Pole replacements:

- Verizon replacing Poles & WMGLD crews transferring – On-going

Vegetation:

- Tree Trimming for 2024 scheduled to start February 2024 – Area 1 (East side / Montrose Area) – **Working**

Substations:

- **Beebe Substation** – Relay upgrades on main breakers and NGrid communications project - **Working**
- **Burns Station** – Remove remaining equipment (**COMPLETED**) and site remediation Q2 2024

Town Projects:

- **Vets Field Lighting** – Upgrade lighting at Vets field with LED fixtures and install secondary cable – **Early Spring 2024**

Information for Discussion at this time

**Board of Commissioners
March 6, 2024
Agenda Item No D-3**

Community Solar Program

The solar array on the roof of 480 North Ave is in service. There have been multiple Community Solar Program Customer Information sessions held.. There are currently 56 customers signed up, including 3 low income customers. Marketing will continue and we are extending the initial sign up date until April 1

Information for Discussion

**Board of Commissioners
March 6, 2024
Agenda Item No. D-4**

Strategic Planning Session for January, 2024

Revised goals and initiatives have been shared with Jon Wortmann. Jon will be facilitating our next Strategic Planning Session on March 20, 2024.

Information for Discussion

**Board of Commissioners
March 6, 2024
Agenda Item No. D-5**

2023 Reivew/ 2024 Goals

The subcommittee of Comm. Warchol and Comm. Daley met with the General Manager to discuss the proposed 2024 goals. Attached are the 2023 Performance results and the proposed 2024 Goals for review and approval.

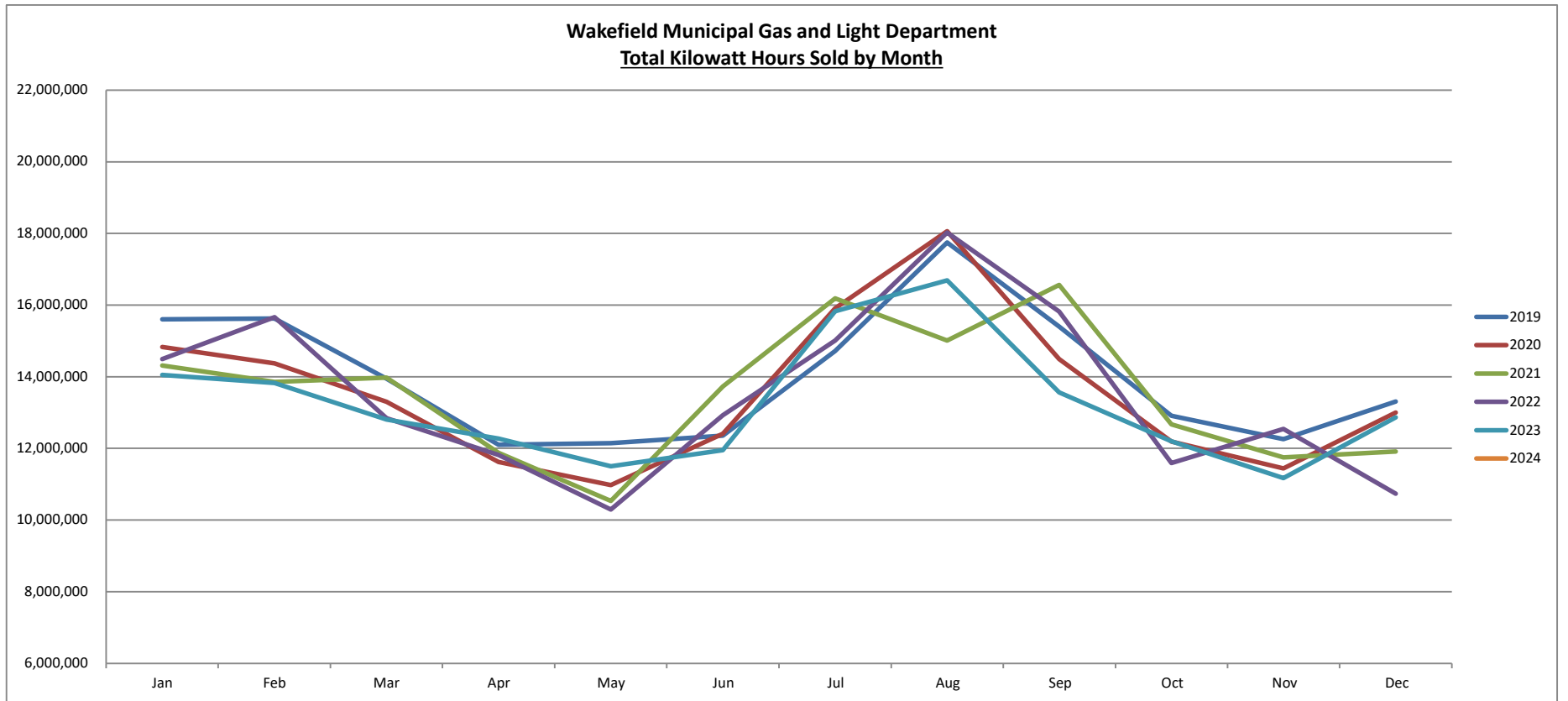
Information for Discussion

Executive Session- If necessary

APPENDICIES

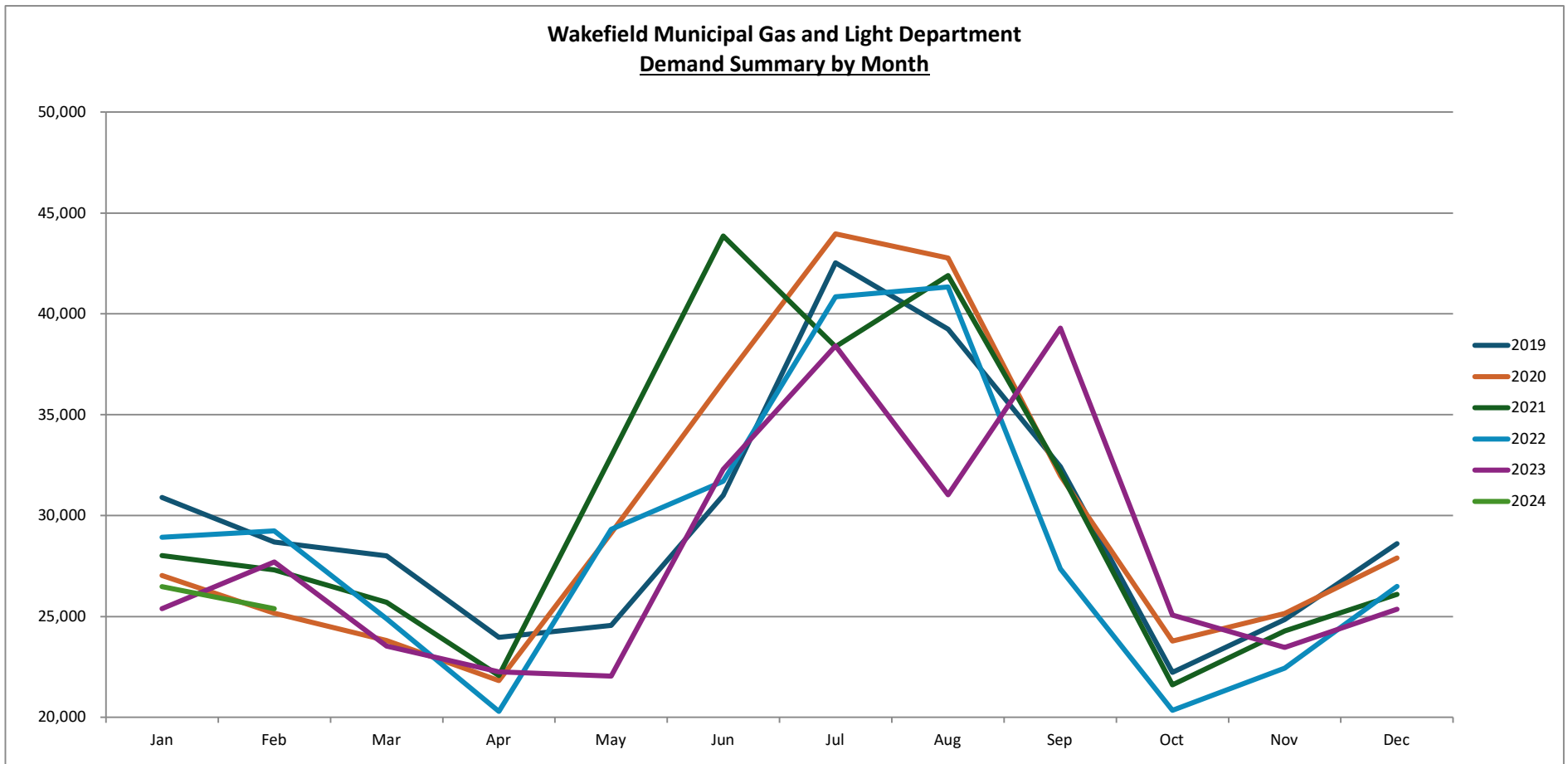
**Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Total Kilowatt Hours Sold by Month**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to Date Thru Jan	Annual Total	Increase (Decrease)
2019	15,603,457	15,622,295	13,945,735	12,101,427	12,149,665	12,351,319	14,712,024	17,745,521	15,394,404	12,913,523	12,257,655	13,307,183	15,603,457	168,104,208	(6.0%)
2020	14,828,122	14,373,838	13,299,621	11,620,258	10,978,443	12,406,390	15,909,116	18,062,379	14,494,332	12,189,623	11,444,845	12,998,123	14,828,122	162,605,090	(3.3%)
2021	14,315,035	13,860,939	13,975,661	11,872,008	10,531,822	13,728,211	16,181,525	15,008,717	16,563,996	12,671,184	11,747,642	11,913,051	14,315,035	162,369,791	(0.1%)
2022	14,493,854	15,665,202	12,846,264	11,814,998	10,293,528	12,923,009	15,012,617	18,027,075	15,822,886	11,590,549	12,547,838	10,732,987	14,493,854	161,770,807	(0.4%)
2023	14,045,840	13,821,742	12,806,211	12,275,410	11,500,963	11,949,119	15,829,221	16,686,719	13,562,408	12,197,234	11,171,431	12,868,832	14,045,840	158,715,130	(1.9%)
2024	13,850,212												13,850,212	13,850,212	(91.3%)



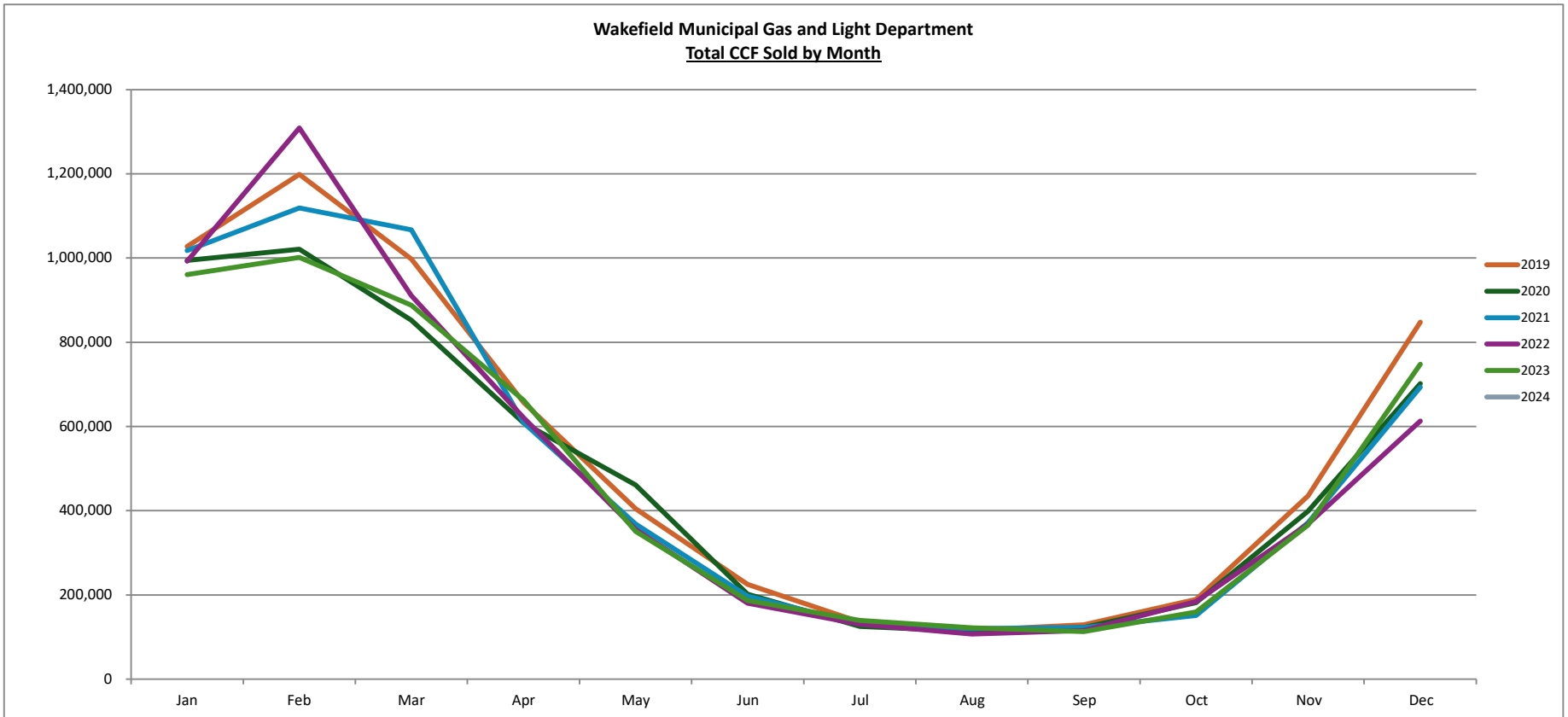
**Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Demand Summary by Month**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Peak	Increase (Decrease)
2019	30,896	28,694	28,005	23,973	24,561	31,013	42,538	39,245	32,423	22,226	24,847	28,610	42,538	(3.3%)
2020	27,031	25,166	23,806	21,823	29,147	36,658	43,966	42,773	31,971	23,789	25,149	27,898	43,966	3.4%
2021	28,023	27,300	25,704	22,075	32,944	43,864	38,381	41,900	32,172	21,605	24,276	26,091	43,864	(0.2%)
2022	28,929	29,248	24,881	20,295	29,315	31,702	40,840	41,328	27,367	20,345	22,445	26,493	41,328	(5.8%)
2023	25,385	27,704	23,537	22,260	22,042	32,290	38,405	31,029	39,294	25,065	23,470	25,351	39,294	(4.9%)
2024	26,477	25,385											26,477	(32.6%)



**Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Total CCF Sold by Month**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to Date Thru Jan	Annual Total	Increase (Decrease)
2019	1,027,554	1,198,806	997,533	657,267	405,201	224,983	136,083	116,142	129,215	189,712	435,624	847,819	1,027,554	6,365,939	(2.4%)
2020	994,568	1,020,971	852,440	608,122	461,181	202,283	125,139	113,927	122,475	182,071	398,894	701,805	994,568	5,783,876	(9.1%)
2021	1,018,323	1,118,751	1,067,083	609,268	368,207	197,298	131,406	120,133	122,771	151,033	371,698	693,323	1,018,323	5,969,294	3.2%
2022	992,152	1,308,855	910,767	620,801	355,552	180,737	130,599	107,477	115,762	184,235	368,178	612,837	992,152	5,887,952	(1.4%)
2023	961,207	1,001,593	887,721	662,622	351,528	186,758	139,576	121,858	112,906	159,667	365,980	748,461	961,207	5,699,877	(3.2%)
2024	878,703												878,703	878,703	



**Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Comparative Balance Sheet - Electric Division**

	1/31/2023	1/31/2024
ASSETS		
Sinking Fund - Self Insurance	\$ 184,058.56	\$ 194,134.55
Depreciation Fund	184,889.47	188,943.85
Consumer Deposits	898,869.01	940,131.96
Total Investments	<u>1,267,817.04</u>	<u>1,323,210.36</u>
Operating Cash	11,197,142.18	18,338,500.71
Depreciation Fund	2,751.10	2,811.50
Consumer Deposits	307,051.56	327,433.22
Petty Cash	525.00	525.00
Total Cash	<u>11,507,469.84</u>	<u>18,669,270.43</u>
Accounts Receivable-Rates	4,084,699.97	4,290,575.45
Accounts Receivable-Other	1,415,078.62	1,222,976.88
Inventory	1,012,600.81	956,341.00
Prepayments Other	1,075,960.27	1,047,345.79
Prepayments Power	4,757,346.82	4,927,364.97
Other Deferred Debits	811,452.33	973,467.61
Total Other Assets	<u>13,157,138.82</u>	<u>13,418,071.70</u>
Total Current Assets	25,932,425.70	33,410,552.49
Distribution Plant	18,780,655.15	18,676,923.18
General Plant	1,427,805.13	1,536,835.18
Net Fixed Assets	<u>20,208,460.28</u>	<u>20,213,758.36</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 46,140,885.98</u>	<u>\$ 53,624,310.85</u>
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Accounts Payable	\$ 66,640.48	\$ 92,379.82
Consumer Deposits	1,205,920.57	1,258,665.18
Other Accrued Liabilities	2,486.17	3,970.02
Reserve for Uncollectable Accounts	106,502.84	96,530.56
Total Current Liabilities	<u>1,381,550.06</u>	<u>1,451,545.58</u>
Compensated Absences	406,034.46	371,881.39
MMWEC Pooled Loan Debt	8,847,451.78	7,902,460.37
OPEB Liability	647,512.25	302,334.00
Pension Liability	6,425,250.00	6,425,250.00
Total Long Term Liabilities	<u>16,326,248.49</u>	<u>15,001,925.76</u>
Total Liabilities	17,707,798.55	16,453,471.34
Retained Earnings	12,944,976.77	15,126,987.70
Year to Date Income	347,150.06	6,038,943.22
Sinking Fund Reserve-Self Ins	184,058.56	194,134.55
Contribution in Aid of Construction	3,705,337.66	3,705,337.66
Investment in Fixed Assets	11,251,564.38	12,105,436.38
Total Equity	<u>28,433,087.43</u>	<u>37,170,839.51</u>
Total Liabilities and Equity	<u>\$ 46,140,885.98</u>	<u>\$ 53,624,310.85</u>

Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Budget vs Actual - Electric Division
For the Seven Months Ending, January 31, 2024

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE		
	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2024	YTD Budget
Energy Revenue (Net of Discounts)				
Residential Sales	\$ 1,572,240.21	\$ 10,105,523.83	\$ 10,967,774.92	\$ 8,739,000.00
Commercial Sales	1,276,543.27	7,940,117.83	8,752,778.46	7,267,000.00
Street Lighting	15,678.00	109,741.00	109,741.00	109,741.00
Municipal Sales	141,060.78	889,420.13	992,860.19	815,000.00
Private Area Lighting	7,563.00	51,225.67	52,230.53	51,905.00
Green Choice Revenue	1,264.67	7,197.29	8,060.33	-
Total Energy Revenue	3,014,349.93	19,103,225.75	20,883,445.43	16,982,646.00
Other Revenues				
Unbilled Revenue	-	-	-	-
Interest Income-Consumer Deposits	4,249.77	13,007.22	30,519.64	29,165.00
Interest Income-Depreciation Fund	406.67	1,649.58	2,800.16	-
Interest Income-Self Ins Sinking Fund	920.88	3,494.21	6,243.57	-
Interest Income-MMWEC	10,018.04	8,187.41	55,964.11	-
Income (Exp) - Merchandise & Jobbing	22,609.24	(27,474.16)	297,849.99	35,000.00
Other Revenues	100.00	600.00	900.00	585.00
Sales Tax	67,286.02	412,522.66	471,185.46	408,335.00
Conservation Charge	59,281.28	340,390.88	414,884.63	406,000.00
Reconnect Fees	400.00	1,100.00	1,750.00	2,335.00
Comcast & RCN Pole Fees	-	68,607.52	76,433.59	70,000.00
Insurance Reimbursements	-	-	3,071.41	-
EV Chargers	-	-	14,116.44	-
Other Electric Revenue	21,086.78	183,691.18	187,778.67	116,665.00
Total Other Revenue	186,358.68	1,005,776.50	1,563,497.67	1,068,085.00
Total Revenue	3,200,708.61	20,109,002.25	22,446,943.10	18,050,731.00
Power Costs				
Purchased Power	(1,477,546.22)	(12,231,554.87)	(9,144,954.57)	(9,845,000.00)
Power Expense Generation	(1,908.65)	(51,143.33)	(14,217.32)	(302,432.00)
Power Expense Battery	(5,485.44)	(42,540.15)	(39,238.77)	(147,422.00)
Total Power Costs	(1,484,940.31)	(12,325,238.35)	(9,198,410.66)	(10,294,854.00)
Gross Profit	\$ 1,715,768.30	\$ 7,783,763.90	\$ 13,248,532.44	\$ 7,755,877.00
Operating Expenses				
Miscellaneous Operating Expenses				
Depreciation Expense	(199,186.90)	(1,654,379.05)	(1,336,362.80)	(1,326,437.00)
Sales Tax	(67,286.02)	(412,522.66)	(471,185.46)	(423,000.00)
Interest Expense-Consumer Deposits	(3,978.52)	2,077.58	(21,638.79)	(10,500.00)
Interest Expense-Sub + MMWEC	(13,636.16)	(119,089.91)	(98,001.37)	(95,865.00)
Total Misc Operating Expenses	(284,087.60)	(2,183,914.04)	(1,927,188.42)	(1,855,802.00)
Distribution Expenses				
Supervision and Engineering	(20,003.17)	(154,065.83)	(147,431.36)	(169,160.00)
Substation Salaries and Expense	(51,740.78)	(334,213.37)	(455,256.68)	(385,000.00)
Customer Installation Expenses	(630.63)	(4,125.85)	(4,406.56)	(14,585.00)
Distribution Operations Expense	(68,956.79)	(369,136.22)	(387,360.04)	(408,332.00)
Total Distribution Expenses	(141,331.37)	(861,541.27)	(994,454.64)	(977,077.00)

Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Budget vs Actual - Electric Division
For the Seven Months Ending, January 31, 2024

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE		
	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2024	YTD Budget
Maintenance Expenses				
Supervision and Engineering	(18,674.40)	(137,461.53)	(146,144.19)	(140,000.00)
Maintenance of Station Equipment	-	(2,265.66)	-	(8,751.00)
Maintenance of Other Equipment	-	(367.50)	(217.50)	-
Maintenance of Overhead Lines	(105,091.56)	(668,439.31)	(880,072.86)	(810,835.00)
Maintenance of Underground Lines	-	(2,794.75)	-	(8,751.00)
Maintenance of Line Transformers	-	-	-	(5,835.00)
Maintenance of Street Lighting	-	-	-	(2,920.00)
Maintenance of Meters	(4,594.91)	(27,375.94)	(64,957.50)	(23,335.00)
Maintenance of Distribution Plant	(1,261.27)	(8,744.42)	(9,134.13)	(14,001.00)
Total Maintenance Expenses	(129,622.14)	(847,449.11)	(1,100,526.18)	(1,014,428.00)
Customer Account Expense				
Meter Reading Expense	(4,081.06)	(29,457.88)	(30,202.13)	(30,335.00)
Customer Records & Collection Exp	(79,442.04)	(606,232.53)	(569,748.97)	(612,500.00)
Total Customer Account Exp	(83,523.10)	(635,690.41)	(599,951.10)	(642,835.00)
Administrative and General Expenses				
Community Relations & Advertising	-	(375,141.21)	(69,390.18)	(58,335.00)
Administrative Salaries and Expense	(22,900.06)	(130,225.87)	(140,446.65)	(140,000.00)
Business Mgr, Office Salaries & Exp	(13,437.09)	(141,214.08)	(100,733.03)	(128,335.00)
MIS Salaries and Expense	(12,727.35)	(211,080.51)	(239,091.59)	(210,000.00)
Outside Services	-	(16,500.00)	(16,500.00)	-
Conservation & Rebates	(75,597.25)	(490,837.25)	(496,899.05)	(406,000.00)
Property & Liability Insurance, Damages	(5,244.10)	(79,584.41)	(79,743.51)	(84,585.00)
Employee Pensions and Benefits	(133,846.93)	(933,413.27)	(848,815.21)	(816,665.00)
General Administrative Expense	(16,034.20)	(37,307.17)	(32,253.14)	(210,000.00)
Maintenance of General Plant	(5,856.86)	(38,884.38)	(47,698.51)	(64,165.00)
Total Admin & General Expenses	(285,643.84)	(2,454,188.15)	(2,071,570.87)	(2,118,085.00)
Net Income (Loss) Before Surplus Adjustments	\$791,560.25	\$800,980.92	\$6,554,841.23	\$1,147,650.00
Surplus Adjustments				
Additions				
Sale of Scrap	-	19,209.15	10,404.63	11,665.00
MMWEC Refund	-	-	-	-
Total Additions to Surplus	-	19,209.15	10,404.63	11,665.00
Subtractions				
Interest on Sinking Fund	920.88	3,494.21	6,243.57	4,665.00
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	60,000.91	413,799.75	420,006.41	420,005.00
Plant Removal Costs	-	55,746.05	100,052.66	81,665.00
Total Subtractions from Surplus	60,921.79	473,040.01	526,302.64	506,335.00
Net Income (Loss)	\$ 730,638.46	\$ 347,150.06	\$ 6,038,943.22	\$ 652,980.00

**Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Comparative Balance Sheet - Gas Division**

	1/31/2023	1/31/2024
ASSETS		
Sinking Fund - Self Insurance	\$ 184,058.55	\$ 194,134.54
Consumer Deposits	100,549.95	110,865.72
Total Investments	284,608.50	305,000.26
Operating Cash	(21,892,499.63)	(23,153,055.11)
Consumer Deposits	207,446.05	219,552.28
Petty Cash	175.00	175.00
Total Cash	(21,684,878.58)	(22,933,327.83)
Accounts Receivable-Rates	1,927,732.86	1,758,130.48
Inventory	704,483.03	907,312.80
Prepayments Miscellaneous	181,862.30	187,590.33
Other Deferred Debits	271,624.63	327,237.42
Total Other Assets	3,085,702.82	3,180,271.03
Total Current Assets	(18,314,567.26)	(19,448,056.54)
Distribution Plant	25,450,643.77	25,465,289.29
General Plant	458,624.37	631,794.14
Net Fixed Assets	25,909,268.14	26,097,083.43
Total Assets	\$ 7,594,700.88	\$ 6,649,026.89
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Accounts Payable	\$ 497,204.06	\$ (10,319.96)
Consumer Deposits	307,996.00	330,418.00
Other Accrued Liabilities	1,029.86	2,744.81
Reserve for Uncollectable Accounts	106,502.84	96,530.56
Total Current Liabilities	912,732.76	419,373.41
Compensated Absences	250,058.31	206,684.73
OPEB Liability	215,836.75	100,778.00
Pension Liability	2,141,750.00	2,141,750.00
Total Long Term Liabilities	2,607,645.06	2,449,212.73
Total Liabilities	3,520,377.82	2,868,586.14
Retained Earnings	(18,446,691.79)	(21,397,354.81)
Year to Date Income (Loss)	(3,647,994.77)	(1,275,155.05)
Sinking Fund Reserve-Self Ins	184,011.95	194,087.94
Contribution in Aid of Construction	13,600.00	13,600.00
Investment in Fixed Assets	25,971,397.67	26,245,262.67
Total Equity	4,074,323.06	3,780,440.75
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 7,594,700.88	\$ 6,649,026.89

Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Income Statement - Gas Division
For the Seven Months Ending, January 31, 2024

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE		
	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2024	YTD Budget
Energy Revenue (Net of Discounts)				
Residential Sales	\$ 1,337,383.26	\$ 3,906,048.24	\$ 4,003,276.29	\$ 5,588,000.00
Commercial Sales	355,042.92	1,189,965.30	1,122,885.89	1,770,000.00
Municipal Sales	172,399.06	437,162.84	428,665.96	559,000.00
Total Energy Revenue	1,864,825.24	5,533,176.38	5,554,828.14	7,917,000.00
Other Revenues				
Unbilled Revenue	-	-	-	-
Interest Income-Consumer Deposits	1,062.45	3,251.81	7,629.94	9,920.00
Interest Income-Self Ins Sinking Fund	920.87	3,494.21	6,243.57	-
Income from Merchandise & Jobbing	25.00	26,272.16	22,484.73	14,590.00
Special Gas Charges			4,000.00	5,835.00
Sales Tax	15,938.81	51,064.08	52,638.60	75,835.00
Reconnect Fees	-	50.00	-	-
Insurance Reimbursements	-	-	-	-
Other Gas Revenue	(2,406.68)	66,120.01	54,956.77	110,835.00
Total Other Revenue	15,540.45	150,252.27	147,953.61	217,015.00
Total Revenue	1,880,365.69	5,683,428.65	5,702,781.75	8,134,015.00
Cost of Gas Purchased	(1,294,422.00)	(6,253,450.16)	(3,843,988.84)	(5,024,000.00)
Gross Profit	\$ 585,943.69	\$ (570,021.51)	\$ 1,858,792.91	\$ 3,110,015.00
Operating Expenses				
Miscellaneous Operating Expenses				
Depreciation Expense	(181,271.51)	(1,217,008.33)	(1,261,698.12)	(1,260,580.00)
Sales Tax	(15,938.81)	(51,064.08)	(52,638.60)	(75,835.00)
Interest Expense-Consumer Deposits	(2,749.92)	519.39	(5,409.70)	(2,915.00)
Total Misc Operating Expenses	(199,960.24)	(1,267,553.02)	(1,319,746.42)	(1,339,330.00)
Distribution Expenses				
Supervision and Engineering	(19,593.95)	(160,641.25)	(174,096.03)	(163,330.00)
Station Labor and Expenses	(19,453.79)	(177,016.00)	(120,201.38)	(163,335.00)
Mains and Service	(10,144.86)	31,317.90	(36,780.90)	(34,995.00)
Customer Installation Expenses	(19,819.87)	(142,650.33)	(133,366.32)	(140,000.00)
Miscellaneous Plant Expenses	(1,270.48)	(32,036.89)	(71,475.01)	(46,665.00)
Total Distribution Expenses	(70,282.95)	(481,026.57)	(535,919.64)	(548,325.00)
Maintenance Expenses				
Maintenance of Mains	(36,347.39)	(307,364.51)	(277,080.47)	(338,330.00)
Maint of Meters and House Regulators	(4,617.86)	(13,730.29)	(12,329.74)	(11,665.00)
Maintenance of Distribution Plant	(3,920.88)	(20,400.96)	(42,341.58)	(23,335.00)
Total Maintenance Expenses	(44,886.13)	(341,495.76)	(331,751.79)	(373,330.00)
Customer Account Expense				
Meter Reading Expense	(1,360.34)	(9,819.20)	(10,067.27)	(11,665.00)
Customer Record and Collection Expenses	(26,855.54)	(199,125.47)	(189,975.05)	(210,000.00)
Total Customer Account Expenses	(28,215.88)	(208,944.67)	(200,042.32)	(221,665.00)

**Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Income Statement - Gas Division
For the Seven Months Ending, January 31, 2024**

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE		
	FY 2024	FY 2023	FY 2024	YTD Budget
Administrative and General Expenses				
Community Relations & Advertising	-	(7,514.50)	(11,487.77)	(8,745.00)
Administrative Salaries and Expense	(7,433.34)	(40,645.08)	(44,789.72)	(43,750.00)
Business Mgr, Office Salaries & Exp	(4,018.80)	(42,765.81)	(28,679.25)	(40,835.00)
MIS Salaries and Expense	(4,242.42)	(70,305.27)	(79,697.11)	(69,995.00)
Outside Services		(18,201.59)	(19,130.39)	(17,500.00)
Property & Liability Insurance, Damages	(42.44)	(19,948.59)	(16,624.28)	(22,165.00)
Employee Pensions and Benefits	(26,791.07)	(195,380.50)	(144,494.65)	(209,995.00)
General Administrative Expense	(7,319.12)	(16,102.55)	(9,107.40)	(58,335.00)
Maintenance of General Plant	(2,692.31)	(13,041.53)	(23,388.93)	(23,335.00)
Total Admin & General Expenses	(52,539.50)	(423,905.42)	(377,399.50)	(494,655.00)
Net Income (Loss) Before Surplus Adjustments	\$190,058.99	(\$3,292,946.95)	(\$906,066.76)	\$132,710.00
Surplus Adjustments				
Additions				
	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Subtractions				
Interest on Sinking Fund	920.87	3,494.21	6,243.57	4,678.00
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	20,000.34	137,933.25	140,002.34	140,004.00
Plant Removal Costs	-	213,620.36	222,842.38	43,754.00
Total Subtractions from Surplus	20,921.21	355,047.82	369,088.29	188,436.00
Net Income (Loss)	\$169,137.78	(\$3,647,994.77)	(\$1,275,155.05)	(\$55,726.00)



WMGLD Gas System Overview & CY 2024 Outlook

Presented by:

Jim Brown (Gas Superintendent)

Paul Robertson (Gas Street Foreman)

Raven Fournier (Senior System Engineer)

**2023
Construction
Review**

DPW Coordination Projects

Central Street & Cordis Street Main Replacement Project

- Replace 1615 (0.3 mi) of Steel Main on Central & Cordis Street - COMPLETE

Dillaway Street & Upland Road Main Replacement Project

- Replace 675 (0.07 mi) of Steel Main on Dillaway St & Upland Rd - COMPLETE

2023 Construction Review

Quannapowitt Avenue Replacement Project

- Replace Mains & Services on Multiple Streets around North Main St – Replace 2415 ft of steel main
- Started Q4 2023 – to finish in Q1 2024

Before



After





Gas System Overview Update

System Overview

Mains

Material	Miles of Main	Percentage of System 2023	Percentage of System 2022	Percentage of System 2021	Percentage of System 2020
Plastic	72.00	80.74%	78.50%	76.44%	74.58%
Bare Steel	13.02	14.59%	16.59%	18.47%	20.24%
Coated Steel	4.02	4.51%	4.62%	4.60%	4.69%
Cast Iron	0.14	0.16%	.29%	.49%	.49%
Total	89.18	100%	100%	100%	100%

System Overview

Services

Material	Number of Services	Percentage of System 2023	Percentage of System 2022	Percentage of System 2021	Percentage of System 2020
Plastic	4486	86.46%	83.81%	82.12%	79.61%
Bare Steel	474	9.13%	10.92%	12.11%	13.79%
Coated Steel	229	4.41%	5.27%	5.77%	6.60%
Total	5189	100%	100%	100%	100%

System Overview

Leaks

	Year End 2018	Year End 2019	Year End 2020	Year End 2021	Year End 2022	Year End 2023	Overall 2018-2023 Reduction
Class 2	47	15	4	0	1	0	47
Class 3 (*SEI)	20	23	12	13	8	1	19
Class 3 (nonSEI)	70	64	62	56	45	34	36
Total Number of Leaks	137	102	78	69	54	35	102

*SEI – significant environmental impact

System Overview

Meters

	Number of Meters 2023	Percentage
Inside	2993	40.73%
Outside	4356	59.27%
Total	7349	100%
Services moved out 2019		134
Services moved out 2020		111
Services moved out 2021		131
Services moved out 2022		113
Services moved out 2023		105



Gas Department Outlook 2024

Planned Work 2024

Yearly Dead Main Project – Oak St Replacement Project

- Sealed bids received 2/28/24
- Work to start March 2024
- Project will replace 6810 feet (1.29 mi) of steel main

Hemlock Rd – gas services to Energy Park and Northeast Metro Tech

- Install main necessary to feed Energy Park & NEMT
- Work to take place in Summer 2024

PHMSA NGDISM Grant Program Updates

2022 Application – Water St & Crescent St Project ~replace 1.37 miles

- Application submitted August 2022
- Awarded April 2023
- Environmental Assessment – July through December 2023
- Engineering & Planning – present
- Bidding Materials & Labor – present

2023 Application – Main St Replacement Project ~replace 3.61 miles

- Application submitted August 2023
- Should receive decision in 2-4 weeks
- Project would replace 3.61 miles of existing infrastructure on 14 street in Greenwood



Questions?



**2023 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager**

Section A: Employee Information		
Peter Dion	General Manager	Performance Period: 2023

General Manager Signature: _____

Board Signature: _____

Date: _____

Section B.1: Performance Goals – Safety (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Reduce Lost Time Accidents	Upper Limit 3 max - YE	1 - LTA	
2. Reduce Responsible Motor Vehicle Accidents	a. Major (>=\$2,500 per incident): Upper Limit 2 max – YE	0	
	b. Minor (<\$2,500 per incident): Upper Limit 3 max – YE	0	
3. Reduce Personal Injuries	Upper Limit 5 max – YE	3 Recordable injuries	
4. Train Employees	Identify and conduct another all employee-based class focused on incidence-based experience - YE	Company wide communications and customer service training - Wortmann	
5. Respond to COVID-19, as needed	Limit exposures and virus spread	Limited cases with no operational impact	



2023 Performance Goals & Evaluation

Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.2: Performance Goals – Operational (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Minimize Electric System Average Interruption Frequency (SAIFI)	Exceed Wakefield Average SAIFI < 0.70 - YE	0.41 customer outages per customers served	
2. Minimize Electric Customer Average Interruption Duration (CAIDI)	Exceed Industry Average CAIDI < 60 minutes - YE	57.89 minutes	
3. Deliver Capital Projects On Time and On Budget	a. Electric: Complete Capital Plan– YE	Completed all items except MAT transformer replacements - Added Hurricane prep survey which added a number of pole and switch replacements and installs	
	b. Gas: Complete Capital Plan– YE	Completed capital plan with some streets replaced per town priorities Awarded \$1.3 million PHMSA grant	
4. Deliver Operation and Maintenance Services On Time and On Budget	a. Electric: Complete O&M (Distribution and Substation) Inspection Program and Address Items –YE	Relay testing and upgrade program on going. Added a meter and CT inspection program	
	b. Electric: Complete Vegetation Management Plan – Q2	Completed in Q2 102 trees planted Q2/Q3 Vegetation Management marketing video created with town	
	c. Gas: Move 100 inside services outside - YE	105 gas services moved outside in 2023	
	d. Gas: Complete Class 2 leak repairs per required targets – YE	0 Class 2 Leaks at YE All Class 2 leaks repaired in required time frames	
	e. Gas: Reduce Class 3 leaks to 40 by YE	30 at YE 2023	



2023 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.3: Performance Goals – Customer Service (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Increase Awareness of Energy Programs through Improved Marketing and Outreach	a. Develop marketing and promotional materials for all rebate incentive programs	Developed summary sheet for all programs and added new links on the website	
	b. Provide annual cost and energy savings data on all rebate and incentive programs	Attached	
2. Provide Customer Service, Education, and Outreach	a. Hold two topic-specific forums annually to educate and collect feedback from customers on new technologies, solutions, and program offerings	TOU Rate and EV Programs Heat Pumps with Abode	
	b. Educate customers on heating and transportation electrification options and costs, with a focus on providing customers with information on fossil fuel supply and cost issues stemming from energy market instabilities	Website continually updated Customer Service staff trained with Abode Created a rates tab on the website with historical data and bill comparison chart Winter Rates Bill Stuffer	
	c. Engage Abode (on heat pumps) and Voltrek (on EVs) to provide technical assistance direct to customers	78 Abode engagements 6 Voltrek engagements	



2023 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.4: Performance Goals – Financial (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Prudent O&M Spending	a. Budget to actual – YE	On target as presented in November	
	b. Overtime (excluding Mutual Aid) < 19% of payroll - YE	12.7% YE attached	
2. Prudent Capital Spending	Budget to actual – YE	On target as presented in November	
3. Annual Audit Performance	a. Positive position – No deficiencies	No deficiencies	
	b. Work towards 3 months of cash on hand	1.83 at YE up from .70 at June 30 audit	
4. Long-Term Capital Planning	Maintain a three-year capital investment plan	Provided in November	
5. Manage account receivable growth due to COVID-19 and fossil fuel security and cost increases due to energy market instabilities	Review detailed data with the Board and develop a plan to address any issues	Included monthly	
6. Manage Power Supply to minimize impacts of energy market instabilities	a. Manage WMGLD power supply costs	Sprague and MMWEC presentations. – Gas and Electric both out performed budget forecasts from 2022 meetings	
	b. Reduce WMGLD dependence on gasoline and diesel fuels in Company vehicle operations	Added Hybrid bucket truck. Added all electric Ford Lightning Added all electric gas service van Added hybrid supervisor SUV	
	c. Assess and communicate impacts of increasing fossil fuel costs on customer rates and bills and mitigation options	Customer communications information two times in 2023 on global impacts on costs and added website rates tab. Winter Rates Bill Stuffer.	



2023 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.5: Performance Goals – Environmental (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Comply with Environmental Legislation	Continually strive to incorporate non-carbon emitting resources, as a percentage of annual MWh sales	Secured long term nuclear deal beginning in 2030 Increased our non carbon emitting portion of the portfolio by 1% to 52.1% for 2023	
	2. Support installation of non-carbon emitting resources	a. Install, design an effective program for, and subscribe customers for the community shared solar project b. Support DPW in installing solar on municipal buildings c. Implement MMWEC battery incentive program for Residential and Commercial customers	
3. Support decarbonization of the heating and transportation sectors	a. Support adoption of efficient electric heat pump systems through website updates, incentives, contractor and customer materials and education, and community coaches	On going – Abode staff training and customer information session. – 104 heat pump rebates in 2023 up from 86 in 2022	
	b. Support electric vehicle adoption through incentives for at home chargers, public chargers, and have information on dealer rebates on vehicles, and test drive events.	Level 3 chargers added at the head of the Lake funded by State Grant	



2023 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

	c. Support the Town in implementing the Energy Park project to address cost, resilience, workforce development, and emissions in WMHS and NEMT school building projects	On going Home Rule petition completed. Equipment ordering underway	
	d. Support the Town on new building code development and adoption including stretch energy, EV-ready, solar-ready, and net zero	Spoke at Town Meeting to support Specialized Stretch code Continued on going work with Building department	
	e. Support the Town on implementation of the Green Communities Energy Reduction Plan	On going - Supporting initial grants	



2023 Performance Goals & Evaluation

Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.6: Performance Goals – Leadership (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Communicate with and Represent the Board	a. Provide regular updates to the Board on discussions with partners (e.g., customers, governmental entities, regulators, trade associations, and other communities)	On going	
	b. Solicit and provide Board feedback to partners (e.g., see list above)	On going	
2. Data Development	Develop performance dashboards to establish metrics, enable comparisons of metrics for various initiatives, and inform decision-making	Dashboards streamlined in 2023	
3. Strategic Planning	Conduct session(s) with the Board on the next phase of strategic planning	Began strategic planning sessions with Jon Wortmann	
4. Improve communication with Town Departments, Committees and Boards	a. Notify Board Chair of requests pertaining to Town Committees or Boards and coordinate a plan of action with the Board	On going	
	b. Coordinate effectively with DPW per Memorandum of Understanding	Meeting multiple times annually to improve communications	
	c. Partner with others to research and share information about energy sector initiatives and policies in other communities	GM served as Governor appointee to the Gas System Enhancement Program modifications	
5. Staff Development	Develop staff capabilities through Board presentations on projects or efforts	All departments presented	
<p>Major Items Not Covered. APPA Reliable Public Power Provider Award, APPA Smart Energy Provider Award, APGA System Operational Achievement Award, NEPPA 2023 Distinguished Service Award to the General Manager</p>			



2023 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Evaluation Summary

Rating:

- B.1 – Safety (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = __% (max 16.67%)
- B.2 – Operational (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = __% (max 16.67%)
- B.3 – Customer Service (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = __% (max 16.67%)
- B.4 – Financial (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = __% (max 16.67%)
- B.5 – Environmental (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = __% (max 16.67%)
- B.6 – Leadership (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = __% (max 16.67%)

Total Rating (out of 100%): _____%

Total Incentive (out of 6%): _____%



**2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager**

Section A: Employee Information		
Peter Dion	General Manager	Performance Period: 2024

General Manager Signature: _____

Board Signature: _____

Date: _____

Section B.1: Performance Goals – Safety (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Reduce Lost-Time Accidents	Upper Limit 3 max - YE		
2. Reduce Responsible Motor Vehicle Accidents	a. Major (\geq \$2,500 per incident): Upper Limit 2 max – YE		
	b. Minor ($<$ \$2,500 per incident): Upper Limit 3 max – YE		
3. Reduce Personal Injuries	Upper Limit 5 max – YE		
4. Train Employees	Identify and conduct a safety-focused training session/program of 100% of employees - YE		



2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.2: Performance Goals – Operational (16.67%)

Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Minimize Electric System Average Interruption Frequency (SAIFI)	Exceed Wakefield Average SAIFI < 0.65 - YE		
2. Minimize Electric Customer Average Interruption Duration (CAIDI)	Exceed Industry Average CAIDI < 60 minutes - YE		
3. Deliver Capital Projects On Time and On Budget	a. Electric: Complete Capital Plan– YE		
	b. Gas: Complete Capital Plan– YE		
4. Deliver Operation and Maintenance Services On Time and On Budget	a. Electric: Complete O&M (Distribution and Substation) Inspection Program and Address Items –YE		
	b. Electric: Complete Vegetation Management Plan by end of Q2		
	c. Gas: Move 100 inside services outside - YE		
	d. Gas: Complete Class 2 leak repairs per required targets – YE		
	e. Gas: Reduce Class 3 leaks to 20 by YE		



2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.3: Performance Goals – Customer Service (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Increase Effectiveness of Customer Programs	a. Provide annual cost and energy savings data on all rebate and incentive programs.		
	b. Assess and communicate impacts of increasing fossil fuel costs on customer rates and bills and mitigation options.		
	a. Develop marketing and promotional materials for all customer programs (rebates, incentives, low-income programs, etc.). Strive to complete email list for all low-income customers.		
	b. Hold two topic-specific forums annually to educate and collect feedback from customers on new technologies, solutions, and program offerings. Residential Rooftop Solar & Low-Income Offerings.		
A.	c. Educate customers on heating and transportation electrification options and costs, including by providing links to tools to calculate the costs and benefits of different options.		
B.	d. Engage Abode (on heat pumps) and Voltrek (on EVs) to provide technical assistance directly to customers. Track the percentage of customers who have received assistance.		
C.	e. Get input from customers/ research other municipalities' websites and take steps to improve website		



2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.4: Performance Goals – Financial (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Prudent O&M Spending	a. Budget to actual – YE		
	b. Overtime (excluding Mutual Aid) < 19% of payroll - YE		
2. Prudent Capital Spending	Budget to actual – YE		
3. Annual Audit Performance	a. Positive position – No deficiencies		
	b. Work toward 3 months of cash on hand- Working Capital Ratio of 3.0.		
4. Long-Term Capital Planning	Maintain a three-year capital investment plan		
5. Manage Account Receivables	Review detailed data with the Board and develop a plan to address any issues. # of Days Revenue in Accounts Receivable >= 30 days.		
6. Manage Power Supply to Minimize Bill Impacts	Bill Comparison charts, Minimum top third of MEAM reporting systems.		



2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.5: Performance Goals – Environmental (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Comply with Environmental Legislation	Continually strive to incorporate non-carbon-emitting resources in supply mix, as a percentage of annual MWh sales.		
2. Support Installation of Non-Carbon-Emitting Resources for Customers and the Community	a. Install, design an effective program for, and subscribe customers for, the community-shared solar project.		
	b. Support Town on installing solar on municipal buildings.		
	c. Implement MMWEC battery-incentive program for Residential and Commercial customers.		
3. Support Decarbonization of the Heating and Transportation Sectors	a. Support adoption of efficient electric-heat-pump systems through website updates, incentives, contractor and customer materials and education, and community coaches.		
	b. Support electric-vehicle adoption through incentives for at-home and public chargers, have information on dealer rebates on vehicles, and hold test-drive events.		
	c. Support the Town in implementing the Energy Park project to address cost, resilience, workforce development, and emissions in WMHS and NEMT school building projects.		
	d. Support the Town on implementation of the Green Communities Energy Reduction Plan.		
	e. Adopt a zero-emission fleet-vehicle policy.		



**2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager**



2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.6: Performance Goals – Leadership (16.67%)

Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Communicate with and Represent the Board	a. Provide regular updates to the Board on discussions with partners (e.g., customers, governmental entities, regulators, trade associations, and other communities) and legislative and regulatory developments (e.g., DPU 20-80).		
	b. Solicit and provide Board feedback to partners (e.g., see list above).		
2. Data Development	Develop performance dashboards to establish metrics, enable comparisons of metrics for various initiatives, and inform decision-making.		
3. Strategic Planning	Conduct session(s) with the Board on the next phase of strategic planning.		
4. Improve Communication with Town Departments, Committees, and Boards	a. Notify Board Chair of requests pertaining to Town Committees or Boards and coordinate a plan of action with the Board.		
	b. Coordinate effectively with DPW per Memorandum of Understanding.		
	c. Partner with others to research and share information about energy-sector initiatives and policies in other communities.		
5. Staff Development	a. Develop staff capabilities through Board presentations on projects or efforts.		
	b. Customer-specific training.		
Major Items Not Covered			



**2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager**

Evaluation Summary

Rating:

- B.1 – Safety (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = ___% (max 16.67%)
- B.2 – Operational (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = ___% (max 16.67%)
- B.3 – Customer Service (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = ___% (max 16.67%)
- B.4 – Financial (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = ___% (max 16.67%)
- B.5 – Environmental (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = ___% (max 16.67%)
- B.6 – Leadership (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = ___% (max 16.67%)

Total Rating (out of 100%): _____%
Total Incentive (out of 6%): _____%



**2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager**

Section A: Employee Information		
Peter Dion	General Manager	Performance Period: 2024

General Manager Signature: _____

Board Signature: _____

Date: _____

Section B.1: Performance Goals – Safety (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Reduce Lost-Time Accidents	Upper Limit 3 max - YE		
2. Reduce Responsible Motor Vehicle Accidents	a. Major (\geq \$2,500 per incident): Upper Limit 2 max – YE		
	b. Minor ($<$ \$2,500 per incident): Upper Limit 3 max – YE		
3. Reduce Personal Injuries	Upper Limit 5 max – YE		
4. Train Employees	Identify and conduct a safety-focused training session/program of 100% of employees - YE		



2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.2: Performance Goals – Operational (16.67%)

Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Minimize Electric System Average Interruption Frequency (SAIFI)	Exceed Wakefield Average SAIFI < 0.65 - YE		
2. Minimize Electric Customer Average Interruption Duration (CAIDI)	Exceed Industry Average CAIDI < 60 minutes - YE		
3. Deliver Capital Projects On Time and On Budget	a. Electric: Complete Capital Plan– YE		
	b. Gas: Complete Capital Plan– YE		
4. Deliver Operation and Maintenance Services On Time and On Budget	a. Electric: Complete O&M (Distribution and Substation) Inspection Program and Address Items –YE		
	b. Electric: Complete Vegetation Management Plan by end of Q2		
	c. Gas: Move 100 inside services outside - YE		
	d. Gas: Complete Class 2 leak repairs per required targets – YE		
	e. Gas: Reduce Class 3 leaks to 20 by YE		



2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.3: Performance Goals – Customer Service (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Increase Effectiveness of Customer Programs	a. Provide annual cost and energy savings data on all rebate and incentive programs.		
	b. Assess and communicate impacts of increasing fossil fuel costs on customer rates and bills and mitigation options.		
2. Improve Marketing and Outreach of Customer Programs	a. Develop marketing and promotional materials for all customer programs (rebates, incentives, low-income programs, etc.). Strive to complete email list for all low-income customers.		
	b. Hold two topic-specific forums annually to educate and collect feedback from customers on new technologies, solutions, and program offerings. Residential Rooftop Solar & Low-Income Offerings.		
	c. Educate customers on heating and transportation electrification options and costs, including by providing links to tools to calculate the costs and benefits of different options.		
	d. Engage Abode (on heat pumps) and Voltrek (on EVs) to provide technical assistance directly to customers. Track the percentage of customers who have received assistance.		
	e. Get input from customers/ research other municipalities' websites and take steps to improve website		



2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.4: Performance Goals – Financial (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Prudent O&M Spending	a. Budget to actual – YE		
	b. Overtime (excluding Mutual Aid) < 19% of payroll - YE		
2. Prudent Capital Spending	Budget to actual – YE		
3. Annual Audit Performance	a. Positive position – No deficiencies		
	b. Work toward 3 months of cash on hand- Working Capital Ratio of 3.0.		
4. Long-Term Capital Planning	Maintain a three-year capital investment plan		
5. Manage Account Receivables	Review detailed data with the Board and develop a plan to address any issues. # of Days Revenue in Accounts Receivable >= 30 days.		
6. Manage Power Supply to Minimize Bill Impacts	Bill Comparison charts, Minimum top third of MEAM reporting systems.		



2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.5: Performance Goals – Environmental (16.67%)			
Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Comply with Environmental Legislation	Continually strive to incorporate non-carbon-emitting resources in supply mix, as a percentage of annual MWh sales.		
2. Support Installation of Non-Carbon-Emitting Resources for Customers and the Community	a. Install, design an effective program for, and subscribe customers for, the community-shared solar project.		
	b. Support Town on installing solar on municipal buildings.		
	c. Implement MMWEC battery-incentive program for Residential and Commercial customers.		
3. Support Decarbonization of the Heating and Transportation Sectors	a. Support adoption of efficient electric-heat-pump systems through website updates, incentives, contractor and customer materials and education, and community coaches.		
	b. Support electric-vehicle adoption through incentives for at-home and public chargers, have information on dealer rebates on vehicles, and hold test-drive events.		
	c. Support the Town in implementing the Energy Park project to address cost, resilience, workforce development, and emissions in WMHS and NEMT school building projects.		
	d. Support the Town on implementation of the Green Communities Energy Reduction Plan.		
	e. Adopt a zero-emission fleet-vehicle policy.		



2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager

Section B.6: Performance Goals – Leadership (16.67%)

Goals & Objectives (What)	Measures (How/When/Metric)	Evaluation	Rating (1 to 5)
1. Communicate with and Represent the Board	a. Provide regular updates to the Board on discussions with partners (e.g., customers, governmental entities, regulators, trade associations, and other communities) and legislative and regulatory developments (e.g., DPU 20-80).		
	b. Solicit and provide Board feedback to partners (e.g., see list above).		
2. Data Development	Develop performance dashboards to establish metrics, enable comparisons of metrics for various initiatives, and inform decision-making.		
3. Strategic Planning	Conduct session(s) with the Board on the next phase of strategic planning.		
4. Improve Communication with Town Departments, Committees, and Boards	a. Notify Board Chair of requests pertaining to Town Committees or Boards and coordinate a plan of action with the Board.		
	b. Coordinate effectively with DPW per Memorandum of Understanding.		
	c. Partner with others to research and share information about energy-sector initiatives and policies in other communities.		
5. Staff Development	a. Develop staff capabilities through Board presentations on projects or efforts.		
	b. Customer-specific training.		
Major Items Not Covered			



**2024 Performance Goals & Evaluation
Peter Dion, General Manager**

Evaluation Summary

Rating:

- B.1 – Safety (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = __% (max 16.67%)
- B.2 – Operational (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = __% (max 16.67%)
- B.3 – Customer Service (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = __% (max 16.67%)
- B.4 – Financial (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = __% (max 16.67%)
- B.5 – Environmental (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = __% (max 16.67%)
- B.6 – Leadership (1 to 5): ___ * 3.334 = __% (max 16.67%)

Total Rating (out of 100%): _____%

Total Incentive (out of 6%): _____%

WMGLD Food Pantry donation



THE WAKEFIELD MUNICIPAL Gas & Light Department recently presented a \$1,000 donation to Wakefield Food Pantry Director Maureen Miller (L) and Volunteer Coordinator Pina Masciarelli (R). The donation represents voluntary contributions made by customers while conducting business at the WMGLD. The donation was presented by WMGLD representatives (second from L-R): Tara Aniello, Office Manager; Shanna Murphy, Office Clerk; Shannon Maher, Office Clerk; Olivia Hayes, Billing Specialist; and Michelle Corcoran, Office Clerk.

Learning about MGLD's Community Solar Program

Additional Zoom webinar tomorrow

WAKEFIELD - Dozens of local residents attended the recent informational session at the Lucius Beebe Memorial Library to learn about the Wakefield Municipal Gas & Light Department's Kenneth Chase Community Solar Program.

Named for longtime WMGLD Commissioner Kenneth Chase, who retired from the Board in 2021 after 42 years of service, the community solar project is part of a 225KWdc solar array currently under construction on the roof of the WMGLD facility at

480 North Ave., one half of which will help power the WMGLD headquarters, while the other half will be available to WMGLD customers as part of the community solar program.

WMGLD Manager Pete Dion and Business Analyst-Energy Services Joe Collins conducted the session which began with a video presentation that enabled the attendees to see the project under construction and to learn more about its technical aspects. Following the video, Collins explained how community solar

programs work and how the WMGLD program will be structured. The WMGLD will maintain the rights to the community solar array, with participating customers paying a membership fee to receive monthly solar production credits based on their membership percentage of the total array.

WMGLD customers who choose to participate will pay the one-time, upfront membership fee of \$75, followed by a monthly fee of \$11 per kW. Participating customers will re-

ceive a credit on their bill each month based on how many Kwh are produced by the customer's share of the community solar, calculated at 85% of the current WMGLD energy charge per Kwh produced. Community solar will be available to customers in IKWdc segments and customers may be able to request up to 5KWdc, depending on the interest in the project.

The WMGLD program includes a low-income carve out for customers who qualify for, or currently participate in, state

assistance programs such as LIHEAP. Twenty-five percent of the array will be reserved for low-income customers, with the \$75 membership fee waived for qualifying customers, and the monthly fee for KW reduced to \$10.50 per KW owned.

The Kenneth Chase Community Solar Program will allow WMGLD customers to have access to green energy without making a large capital investment, while assisting the WMGLD in meeting its decar-

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bonization goals and the state's Net Zero 2050 goal. "We are happy that so many residents attended the session to learn about community solar and to hear more about the Kenneth Chase Community Solar Program," General Manager Dion said. "This is a great pilot program that will potentially lead to future projects."

WMGLD customers can sign up for the Kenneth Chase Community Solar Program until March 1st on the website <https://wmgld.com>, by contacting the WMGLD at communitysolar@wmgld.com, or by calling 781-246-6363. Both the community solar program



REPRESENTATIVES FROM the Wakefield Municipal Gas & Light Department (WMGLD) and members of the Environmental Sustainability Committee were at the recent informational session to answer questions and provide information about the Kenneth Chase Community Solar Program. (From left to right) WMGLD Commissioner Sharon Daly, Finance and Customer Service Manager Mark Cousins, Business Analyst - Energy Services and session presenter Joe Collins, Wakefield Town Councilor Julie Smith-Gallivan, General Manager and presenter Pete Dion, Commissioner Tom Boettcher, Commissioner Jennifer Kallay, Wakefield Environmental Sustainability Committee Chair Melissa Eusden, and Wakefield Town Council Vice Chair Michael McInane.

Power outage traced to Nat'l. Grid line

WAKEFIELD — Most of Wakefield lost electrical power briefly yesterday afternoon at about 4:15 due to a momentary issue with National Grid's transmission system, which feeds Wakefield's Municipal Gas & Light Department.

According to WMGLD Gen-

eral Manager Pete Dion, the power interruption occurred on National Grid's system in the Saugus area. When such an interruption occurs, Dion explained, Wakefield's substations automatically switch to a second transmission line, which is why the outage lasted only about three seconds before the power came back on. Dion said that the system worked exactly as it was supposed to.

National Grid has since identified the cause of the outage and made the necessary repairs, Dion said, and Wakefield's system is also back to its normal configuration.

The momentary outage did wreak havoc with appliances

and alarm systems locally. In the wake of the power interruption, the Wakefield Fire Department responded to a number of fire alarm and carbon monoxide alarm malfunctions. Both fire stations also lost power.

Comments WMGLD webinar tonight

Stay at home tonight and learn about the exciting new solar energy program being offered by the Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department. The webinar begins at 6:30 and interested customers can register at <http://tinyurl.com/43ud4urp>.

WMGLD customers who choose to participate in the Kenneth Chase Community Solar Program will pay the one-time, upfront membership fee of \$75, followed by a monthly fee of \$11 per kW. Participating customers will receive a credit on their bill each month based on how many Kwh are produced by the customer's share of the community solar, calculated at 85% of the current WMGLD energy charge per Kwh produced. Community solar will be available to customers in 1KWdc segments and customers may be able to request up to 5KWdc, depending on their interest in the project.

The WMGLD program includes a low-income carve out for customers who qualify for, or currently participate in state assistance programs such as LIHEAP. Twenty-five percent of the array will be reserved for low-income customers, with the \$75 membership fee waived for qualifying customers, and the monthly fee for KW reduced to \$10.50 per KW owned.

The Kenneth Chase Community Solar Program will allow low WMGLD customers to have access to green energy without making a large capital investment, while assisting the WMGLD in meeting its decarbonization goals and the state's Net Zero 2050 goal.

"We are happy that so many residents attended the session to learn about community solar and to hear more about the Kenneth Chase Community Solar Program," General Manager Dion said. "This is a great pilot program that will potentially lead to future projects."

WMGLD customers can sign up for the Kenneth Chase Community Solar Program until March 1st on the website <https://wmgld.com>, by contacting the WMGLD at communitysolar@wmgld.com, or by calling 781-246-6363. Both the community solar program and the WMGLD portion of the 225KWdc solar array are expected to go live in the spring.