

Village of Richmondville

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The focus of our work has been on setting poles and running line to bypass Palmer Road, which began as supplying power to 2 new customers in that area, one on each end. We decided to connect the 2 projects to create a bypass for Palmer Road, which is a pretty good problem area given all the tall trees on a hill on that road. This way if one falls, we should be able to continue to feed West Richmondville and only lose Palmer and Raven Road, unless it breaks the underground or junction poles. This is improving system reliability, as well as improving/upgrading our system, essential for accounting and rate cases. We hope to have 90% of this job done by the end of the week (8/23). This is a fairly aggressive project in a relatively short period of time for only 4 people (started clearing 7/17, set first poles 7/23, plus all the other things we have to do, meter reading, pink slips, disconnects, weather, service disconnects, and reconnects, etc.). I am really proud of the work these guys have put in.

I have been giving information to Smart Kable to evaluate our system, and they responded with a proposal, and are waiting Board approval before beginning work. In the mean time another company, reached out to us to also propose different solutions, such as using batteries in our substation to ease the use during peak times. I am only giving them information at this point, and they are just evaluating whether or not they can help. I am pretty sure we can only go with one of these companies, since they are coming to us due to grant money put out by NYSERDA specifically for municipality owned electric, and co-ops, for studying their systems and evaluating the effects of electrification, and each awarded muni or co-op will receive only so much money. There is also a phase 2 type grant for assisting the actual upgrades, after it's evaluated.

Robert, Aliha, and I met again, with Rick Palumbo, of USA Software. This is an inventory type program that will not only keep track of your inventory, but also keep track of the value of your system, and the depreciation of it, including vehicles, tools, and equipment. As we change a pole it will take out the old pole, at it's depreciated rate, and start the depreciation rate on the new one just installed, therefor keeping an updated value of our system. He has sent a proposal, and is also very flexible with it to suit our needs. On the proposal, we determined that we should be good with only one user, Aliha, being that user, with me just having a "mirror" to see any information I may need. Also where it mentions additional districts, we would need 2 districts. One for Village, and one for Town, to separate the values for tax purposes.

Carl, Garry, and I have met with the School, and National Grid regarding the School Bus Garage Proposal. National Grid came back with the proposal to sell us power to sell to the school. This presents questions of at what rate, do they sell to us, and will it be cheap enough to sell to the school at our current rates, or will we have to create a special rate? We decided to contact Ken Polodny, who is the lawyer for the MEUA/NYMPA to help settle some of these questions. He is having a meeting with National Grid on Friday (8/16), of which I am unable to sit in on, due to being out of town for training.

*Mayor – Carl Warner Jr. ❖ Trustees – Milan W. Jackson, Robert Hyatt, Garry Davis, Cynthia Miller
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We have purchased several battery power tools, plus batteries through the MVEDD grant that Hope has set up. Thank you Hope for getting it all together. These tools are already proving useful, and the guys like using the ones we've tried so far.

I am also trying to gather information for Lynda as she requests it, for the annual report. We have discussed changes in the way we code a few items in order to better reflect our property value.

Ben Yorke has been our summer help for this year, since June. I'd like to thank him. He has done a good job, and his last day will be August 23rd, due to school sports starting up.