



IBEW
Local Union 910
Professionalizing the Electrical Industry

The Insider

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March 2018

Regular Meeting Dates

WATERTOWN: Regular meeting
March 6th, 7:00 p.m.

PLATTSBURGH: Satellite meeting
March 13th, 7:00 p.m.

Benefit Funds Update

Prior to the March Regular Union Meeting in Watertown, Fund Manager Mark Capone will be giving a presentation on the status of our benefit funds. Mark will cover all aspects of our Health and Welfare, Pension and Annuity funds, along with a question and answer period afterward.



Training, Training !

Watch for more Journeyman
Training opportunities
in the near future!

REMINDER:

**1st Quarter Dues
Are Now Payable**

**Wiremen \$120.60
Apprentice \$114.60**

Check or exact cash accepted.
If you have any questions concerning
how much you may owe,
please call (315) 782-5630

Contract Ratification Vote -

The Local 910 Negotiating Committee has reached a tentative agreement for our Inside Construction Agreement after negotiating with the Northern New York Chapter of NECA.

Membership ratification voting will take place at both Watertown and Plattsburgh on March 6th beginning at 7:00PM.

All Local 910 members in good standing will be eligible to cast a vote on the proposed extension to the agreement.

From Your Training Director

Everyone;

I would like to take this time to express the importance of training our future workforce.

During the short time I have been Training Director, the committee and I have made several changes in hope of producing higher quality Apprentices/Journeymen. I would like to remind everyone to take the time to teach Apprentices all of the valuable knowledge that you hold. This process is truly a team effort from every member in our Local.

If you are experiencing issues or concerns with an Apprentice, please let me know as soon as possible so we can work together to correct the situation.

Monthly evaluations are a very important tool for us to track an Apprentice's progress; evaluations are due by the 10th of each month. Please take the time to write about your Apprentice, positive as well as negative comments. This is the most important feedback that I get from you.

Thank You!

Notes From Your Training Director

The EJATC will be offering CPR classes in Plattsburgh on March 10th and 31st. If anyone is interested, please call 315-782-1675 or email me asmith@ibew910.org.

The EJATC of Watertown is currently seeking new instructors in both Watertown and Plattsburgh. If anyone is interested in teaching, please call the office or email me.

Currently we have 110 Journeyman on Book I, 4 on Book II, 18 Apprentice, 11 Residential, CE, CWs and 0 Tele-data Technicians available for work.

Jobs bid in the last week include: Morristown CSD-Renovations went to S&L (U) for \$257,000; Plattsburgh Airport-Air Cargo Distribution Center was a GC bid to Murnane for \$6,615,000, the electric will go to S&L (U) for \$979,000; Plattsburgh Airport-Multi Modal Building was a GC bid to JFP for \$2,182,406, the electric will go to WJ Murray (U) for \$248,000; Beaver River CSD-Smart Schools Project went to Lawman H&C (U) for \$254,900; and Clifton Fine-Smart Schools went to TEL INC(U) for \$290,000.

Upcoming work includes: Several Dollar Stores, Town Of Fine-Water System Improvement, NYPA-Generator Upgrades, SUNY Canton-University Police Relocation, Fort Drum-LED Lighting Various Buildings, SUNY Potsdam Lehman Hall Phase VIII, NYPA-TLEM Switchyard Project, City Of Ogdensburg-Street Lighting Upgrade, St. Lawrence University-Madill Hall, JCC-Theater Lighting System, SUNY Plattsburgh-Whiteface Hall, Plattsburgh Airport-Air Cargo Distribution Center, Canton CSD-Capital Outlay Project, Beaver River CSD-Smart Schools Project, Thousand Islands Welcome Center and several projects at the Plattsburgh Airport Agri-Mark Chateaugay facility, Norsk Titanium, a new development for a windfarm on Galloo Island, and the Copenhagen & Mad River windfarms.

School projects that are in various stages of development: Clifton-Fine \$3.6 million, Brasher Falls \$10 million, Peru \$2.8 million, Thousand Islands School 6.9 Million, Franklin-Essex-Hamilton BOCES \$18.5 million, General Brown \$9.37 million, Parishville-Hopkinton \$2.3 million and St. Lawrence Central \$17.7 million.

You may have heard about the possibility of a Bitcoin group setting up at the Alcoa East Plant. A few weeks ago, rumors indicated that Alcoa had signed a lease with a tech company for the old Reynolds Plant, now referred to as Alcoa East. A Bitcoin mining company called Coinmintois proposed to set up shop in the old aluminum smelter mill. They claim that they will invest \$165 million and the end result will be 150 new jobs. They are reported as saying it expects to handle 15 percent of the world cryptocurrency business, also known as Bitcoin. Similar to a data center, the big issue with locating them somewhere is the cost of power. Because all this is internet traffic, it can happen anywhere they have good conductivity. Many places have that now with the extent of fiber optic cable, therefore they locate where the power is cheapest. The cheap power in Massena is from the New York Power Authority, the power formerly used by General Motors, Reynolds and Alcoa. This group asked for a 15 megawatt allocation of power from NYPA. Last Tuesday the NYPA Board of Directors tabled the request saying they need more information. I think that was a very good decision. As much as I want the work, I do not see any way that this type of business can employ that many people. Also if this group would stretch the number of employees, why would we believe their construction cost estimates?

Travis and I attended the presentation by the New York State DOT last week at St. Lawrence University regarding the proposed Canton Potsdam bypass. The event was very well attended, with an estimated 200 attendees. A group has been employed by DOT to study the need for a bypass as well as how it would be built. They showed maps of the different options with bypassing each Village and a 4-lane highway between them. They have also done traffic surveys; they actually stopped over 3,000 vehicles to find out where they were from and why they were traveling. The results seemed to be that there was not much of a traffic problem, not much wait for traffic lights and a high percentage of the drivers were local people. Also any of the bypass options were very expensive. Because of many geographical factors, the bypasses had to be designed a long distance around each Village. They were so long that I question if people would even use them due to the additional length added to your trip. You could sense many disappointed people from those attending. The big factor they are not able to predict is how highway improvements in North Country would spur economic development.

We are going to begin negotiations shortly. Input has been sought from the membership but we have not gotten any feedback. Our intent is to get an agreement by the end of the month so we can vote on it at the March meeting.

We are now in the middle of an organizing campaign with the employees of Primelink in Plattsburgh. Primelink is the internet side of Champlain Telephone. We have made efforts for years to gauge the interest of Primelink employees. It is ironic, after a contentious negotiations with Champlain, that they would now be more interested. I will keep you posted on this going forward.