

Middleton Electric Light Commission
Meeting Minutes
October 18, 2017

The following individuals were in attendance:

Frank Twiss, Chairman
Chuck Clinch
Tim Houten
Jim Kelley
Jim Carbone
Michael Cloutier, Manager

Chairman Twiss called the meeting to order at 5:05PM.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion:

Tim Houten motioned to approve the agenda as written. Chuck Clinch seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

Tim Houten motioned to accept the minutes of September 20, 2017 as written. Jim Carbone seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Financial PPA:

We are doing quite well as we have done all year. Total revenue is off only \$32K from 2016. Residential sales are up \$50K, commercial sales are down \$200K and industrial sales are up \$350K. MIT running peak at around 750 kW, ice skating rink around \$25K per month and Bostik is running quite well. Recloser not yet ordered for MIT as we are still waiting for some prices. This is their first major protection upgrade in a long time. Net income is up almost \$500K from 2016. Purchased power is lower because of bond return from Seabrook. Interest income is about \$50K lower than 2016. Operating cash is down only \$100K after ROW purchase.

Power supply sheet shows cost down mostly driven by the reduced cost of Seabrook. Total cost is up per KWH, \$0.097 compared to \$0.094 from 2016. This is due to the increased capacity costs we are realizing in the second half of 2017. Through ENE, Nextera has offered a piece of Seabrook. We do not have room for it now as we have the solar. It will probably be 2020-2021 before we can look at new prospects.

Manager's Report:

We just went through a credit review from S & P Global. Our rating is at an A.

Rack truck is out for repairs. It is 10-11 years old. It is slated for replacement. We are waiting for parts but should have it back by Friday.

Remphos still has not delivered the lights. We are trying to find out their plan for the production schedule.

We are in the process of upgrading our website. It is the same company we were using but it will be more dynamic and easier to upgrade.

St. Thomas mutual aid men stayed in containers on berthing ships at first. It was not a good situation. They are now staying on cruise a ship which is much better. There is a three week turnaround. The next group will be November 6th. The downtown area has power and stores are open. There is no power on the side of the island where they are working. Barges are coming in everyday to replace stock and supplies. Mr. Cloutier is requesting a vote from the Commissioners assigning him to St. Thomas for mutual aid work.

Motion:

Mr. Houten made motion to see if the Board will vote to assign GM Michael Cloutier to fulfill mutual aid obligations as an employee of MELD in St. Thomas for a period of approximately three weeks starting on or about November 6th and further, to compensate him in accordance with MELD's Emergency Storm Work Premium policy, based on salary pro-rated on an hourly basis, the rate of which is \$86.23 per hour, on the basis of timesheets to be submitted by Mr. Cloutier upon his return from duty in St. Thomas. Mr. Kelley seconded motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Invoices have been submitted to Florida. Total amount is about \$86K which includes equipment, travel and wages.

Solar Projects:

The Ralph Digiorgio project is still not viable. The Richardson project is still going forward. The site has been shrunken down to use the bottom portion with higher efficient panels. They are going from 14 feet to 9 feet between rows but you will still be able to drive a truck between rows. They will lease 21-22 acres therefore reducing the lease payment. They will be able to give us 5.9 megawatts AC and 4 megawatts DC. All Town officials are onboard. Ryan is sending a letter to the developer with copies to the Board of Selectmen and the Assessors. The Town will get an additional \$20K per year in taxes. There was a Design Review Group meeting with the Fire Chief, Police Chief, Health Agent, DPW, Conservation and Town Planner. There were no issues of consequence. The next will be the Zoning Board and then the Town meeting. We are developing this as a community solar project so we will need subscribers. There can be no more than two subscribers for up to 50% of the project. For the remaining 50% subscribers can take up to 25KW. We are looking at MIT as a non-profit and Bostik as our largest customer

taking 1.6 megawatts out of the 4.6 megawatts. Residential will get a limit to 10KW and we are proposing 200 of those for 1.25 megawatts. Small business will get 25KW for 1.25 megawatts. Town government will get 425KW and the two churches and the American Legion will get 75KW. We are trying to encompass the whole community. We will have a subscription drive with window stickers stating "this home/business is powered by green energy". The subscription is as easy as filling out a one page form, signing that you want green energy. The benefit would be \$13.40 annually for residential and two and a half times that for businesses. It would show up as a credit on the electric bill. A letter will be sent to the DOER. Mr. Cloutier feels the project really looks good.

Next meeting will be determined.

Motion:

Mr. Kelley made a motion to adjourn at 6:10PM. Mr. Clinch seconded motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

**James Carbone
Clerk**