

Middleton Electric Light Commission
Meeting Minutes
December 20, 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 5:12PM.

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 October 18, 2017 as written. Jim Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Financial PPA:

Power supply numbers are very similar to 2016. Overall it was a little more expensive this year by \$0.007 but for the year our total cost for energy is \$0.097 versus \$0.098 for 2016. We have a very good power portfolio. Month to month shows very little fluctuation from a low of \$0.088 and a high of \$0.108. As far as the capacity zone we were rolled in with southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. They are going to close Plymouth in 2019 which will bring us down. Mr. Cloutier locked in a small portion of energy in January and February 2018. It will be 1 megawatt on peak and ½ megawatt off peak at a good price.

Financials are tracking close to 2016. We are making almost \$700K more net income than 2016. Last year we lost \$241K and this year we lost \$94K. Interest income is up \$180K from 2016 with a YTD income of \$523K. That is in spite of the \$1 mil taken from the account for the ROW purchase. Operating cash has just about fully recovered. 2017 is at \$2.466 mil versus \$2.7 mil in 2016. Cash position is solid and net income positive. This will mean the in lieu of tax payment should be about the same as 2017.

Manager's Report:

Website has been upgraded and is online. It will be easier to navigate. The website is www.middletonlight.org.

We got delivery of 275 out of the 321 Remphos bulbs. So far one does not work. We may look for other source options for the remaining 46 if there are more problems. Some of the bulbs have already been installed.

We will be replacing the rack truck and also the digger and the bucket truck currently in St. Thomas.

There are six residential write-offs totaling \$2,542.03 being requested by Cheryl.

Motion:

Mr. Houten made a motion to allow the write-offs as requested. Mr. Kelley seconded motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Everyone is back from mutual aid. We had one crew in Florida and three rotations in St. Thomas. All received excellent reports and there were no injuries. Trucks are supposed to be put on a barge to New London, CT in the next few days. We are getting paid for the trucks until they reach Connecticut. NEPPA's first invoice has cleared a few hurdles. Our portion of that invoice is \$319K and our portion of the second invoice is \$190K. The Florida invoice was for about \$86K. Two invoices have come through but the third is being disputed due to the fuel charges. Mutual aid season should be done now.

We are close to signing the PPA for the solar project. There is just some language in the lease regarding early termination that needs to be addressed. We are willing to allow early termination after year fifteen. Our PPA is with the developer not with Richardson. Jared Haynes from HG Solar, who we are signing the PPA with, has gotten Faulk Renewables to take over the project. They will own it, run it and keep it in their portfolio.

Mr. Cloutier will meet with MIT and Bostik regarding their participation in the community solar program. It would mean them signing a form stating they would want to participate. We can sign up to 50% of the program to no more than three but no less than two participants. There is really no risk to those who want to participate. We have already ordered the recloser which has the longest lead time. We are looking for an early summer opening.

Mr. Cloutier recommends waiting for the Town to come to us with a rail trail proposal. Mr. Houten said the Rail Trail Committee is planning to get together after the holidays.

The Town of Danvers has not yet gotten the overhead and underground easements granted to us. They are still working on the title for the three parcels that were removed from the purchase.

Next meeting January 24, 2018.

Motion:

Mr. Houten made a motion to adjourn at 6:15PM. Mr. Kelley seconded motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

**James Carbone
Clerk**