

Middleton Electric Light Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2018

The following individuals were in attendance:

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

Acting Chairman Clinch called the meeting to order at 5:10 PM.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion:

Tim Houten motioned to approve the agenda as written. Jim Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

Tim Houten motioned to approve the minutes of January 24, 2018 as written. Jim Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Financial PPA:

These are the final power supply numbers for 2017. We are tracking close to 2016. We are at \$0.10 for 2017 compared to \$0.98 for 2016. Somethings were up and somethings were down but evened out in the end. The year-end PSA total was \$0.061 and 2016 showed \$0.084. This was due to Seabrook as we have prepaid with part of the lump sum from Seabrook. However, our ISO Interchange went up to \$0.47 versus \$0.21 in 2016 due to higher capacity costs.

Bill Fraher moved the ISO Sovereign and the Flynn Ameritrade accounts on the balance sheet from the Fund Accounts to the Current and Accrued Assets. Also, OPEB was moved from Current and Accrued Assets to Fund Accounts. The Wells Fargo account is down due to the withdrawal for the ROW purchase. Cash is almost fully recovered. In 2016 it was \$2.369K and it was \$2.194K in 2017. The Income Statement shows a positive net income for the year of \$1.547K compared to \$1.19K for 2016. Industrial sales are up \$300K, residential sales down about \$100K and commercial sales down \$200K. Overall it balanced out and we made more money. Therefore, the financials are doing good.

Mr. Cloutier said he can calculate the "in lieu of tax" number at any time. The number should be about \$221K.

Motion:

Mr. Houten made a motion to have Mr. Cloutier calculate the number and approve the resulting payment. Mr. Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Manager's Report:

Twelve of the Remphos lights were flawed. Eye Lighting will be the supplier for the additional 48. We have ordered 16 that will fit the acorn style. They are lower wattage and less expensive. Ten of the 8' garage lights have been installed. The others will be done soon.

Rack truck is being up-fitted and should be delivered in a couple of weeks. We have ordered a single rail trailer that should be delivered in April. David's 13 year-old Ranger needs to be replaced. Mr. Cloutier will discuss options with David. The Town would like to purchase the Ranger for the Animal Control Officer.

We are getting prices from Avcom for meter reading equipment. They will be put on poles around town so that we could read meters without leaving the office. It will allow us to use the meters already out there. We presently have two types of meters, one that is ¼ watt and one that is 1 watt. The ¼ watt meter broadcasts a signal every 7 seconds and the 1 watt meter every 30 seconds. We will do it with repeaters which are less expensive than collectors. They will also let us get information to consumers faster. We will use the meters currently in place and slowly replace the ¼ watt to the 1 watt.

We will be installing FIOS to increase the internet speed at MELD. The speed is currently very slow.

We are looking at how to map our system. There is a company, mPower, that will use their software to survey the system. They will go pole to pole and enter everything into their software. Georgetown paid about \$70K for the system and then there is an annual maintenance fee. This will enable the men in the field to go to the website and access the maps. Mr. Cloutier sees a benefit in this.

APPA Rally is next week. Mr. Cloutier and Mr. Houten are attending.

MEAM is May 16th and 17th. A lot is going on in the State level. There is an Omnibus Energy bill being presented for which MEAM is opposed. The bill wants the municipal light departments to have an RPS. We would have to buy and retire recs and follow Chapter 21N, referencing the Global Warming Solutions Act.

The Commissioners need to appoint an individual or committee for the Designer Selection Procedure.

Motion:

Mr. Houten motioned to appoint Mr. Cloutier to conduct the process for the Designer Selection Procedure. Mr. Kelley seconded motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Cloutier passed out the enrollment form for the participation in the solar project. Developer will donate \$5 to a non-profit in Town chosen by each customer. There will be a pool of additional customers in case someone should back out of the agreement. Battery storage for the project is still being worked out. Mr. Cloutier will be speaking at the Middleton Board of Trade about the project tomorrow. Developer hopes to begin work on solar in the next few weeks.

Manager's Review:

A discussion on what may or may not be legally offered to compensate manager took place. It was brought up that previous tries to compensate "outside the box" could not be legally done and questioned whether Mr. Cloutier's proposal could be accomplished. Mr. Cloutier had followed up with Deidre and she said the compensation could not be performance based. Mr. Cloutier thought the life insurance portion was common. Mr. Houten will check. Deidre also suggested a time frame of 5 years with an option to renew after the 5 year period. Mr. Cloutier will try to get a more definitive answer as to what can legally be offered.

Next meeting: March 21, 2018.

Motion to adjourn at 6:28PM.

Respectfully submitted,

James Carbone
Clerk