

**Middleton Electric Light Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 8, 2021**

The following individuals were in attendance:

Frank Twiss, Chairman

Jim Kelley

Tim Houten

Jim Carbone

Michael Cloutier, Manager

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

***Approval of Agenda:***

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

***Approval of Minutes:***

**Motion:**

**Tim Houten motioned to approve the minutes of October 20, 2021, as written. Jim Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.**

**Tim Houten motion to approve the Executive Minutes of September 15, 2021 in Groveland, MA, as written. Jim Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. Chairman Twiss abstained as he was not present for the whole meeting.**

***Financials:***

Power supply report indicates our KWH average cost was up slightly. However, the year-end amount should be what was budgeted. Power costs for next year are starting to trend down. We lost a little bit of money in September due to the fact that the interest income was down. The interest income is now starting to go up. We still show a healthy net income. It is \$300K more than 2020 due to the interest income. Operationally we should track close to what we did last year. Power supply is within \$500K from what it was in 2020.

Essex Sports Center has been paying but have been falling behind a bit by a few days. They are still paying their monthly bill plus the extra payment for when they fell behind during the 2020 pandemic. Brad, at Town Hall, determined that we could put a lien on the property, if necessary.

***Manager's Report:***

The Kiley bucket truck is at the auction. The auction will take place December 7, 2021. We have the specs in house for the new Altec truck and are going through it line by line. Altec has put a hold for a position on the production line for us. As soon as everything is in order, we will put in the purchase order. It looks like we are going to get an F550, extended cab, 4x4. It is a heavy truck for a smaller chassis, but it has the same reach. The baseline price for this truck is approximately \$200K, compared to over \$250K for the bigger truck. Braintree has similar Altec trucks and are very happy with them.

Rail trail continues to make progress. They have installed a bench, a bike rack and a bike fixit station. Middleton Magazine wants to do an article on the rail trail. Arrangements have been made for November 18, 2021 to walk the trail with the group and take some pictures. They invited MELD to attend because we have been instrumental in the trail development.

Co-op has the updated agreement in place. we will be filing organizing paperwork with the Secretary of State after the first of the year.

In regard to the Engineer Position, a candidate has been interviewed and an offer was made. The candidate is a highly qualified, Professional Engineer with outstanding references. He is looking over the offer before making a commitment. The monetary offer is in three steps starting at \$135K, calculated hourly. The wage does line up with the MEAM survey for engineer compensation. The candidate was impressed with MELD's reputation. If he accepts the offer, he will be onboard by our next meeting.

MELD sent some of our linemen for mutual aid in Hingham and Middleboro from October 27, 2021 to October 31, 2021. Mike B. and Jeremy went to Hingham and Chuck and TJ went to Middleboro. We received good feedback on all their work.

Next meeting: December 15, 2021

Tim Houten motioned to adjourn at 5:50PM.

Respectfully submitted,

James Carbone  
Clerk