

Middleton Electric Light Commission
Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2022

The following individuals were in attendance:

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

Chairman Twiss called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

Approval of Agenda:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

Jim Kelley motioned to approve the minutes of November 16, 2022, as written. Chuck Clinch seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Financials:

Power supply shows we bought 5mil KWH from the market in August. Overall, we are tracking more expensive than last year, but we are over the worst months now. We bought 10mil and 11mil KWH in July and August. About 40% was bought on the open market as we had a lower hedged position. It came back in September and will look even better in November and December. We are still making money operationally, but due to the investment losses we are down. The investment losses were \$2.38mil. Mr. Cloutier met with the financial advisor, and

we will be making moves to lateral out of some positions into others. Selling low but in turn buying low. Bonds are way up as far as interest rates, so our fixed income is up over 4% as we have a significant amount in bonds. The advisor feels it should be about 18 months and we will be back up. For the year our net income is about \$250K. Next year is shaping up to be okay, but it is still very expensive power. Our cash position is still good at just over \$4mil, so we are fine operationally. The power contract is ready to sign for about \$0.11 per kwh. This will lock about 80% of our winter gas contract for January, February and possibly March. As our heat rate is set for the entire year, we are getting great prices in the winter, but will pay more in the summer. Hopefully, gas prices will come down by summer. This is only half of our open position. Scott is keeping an eye open for better prices in order to buy blocks of power for our bigger periods. ENE has an opportunity to buy non-carbon energy in hydro, wind and nuclear. Mr. Cloutier did not like the price on the nuclear. We already have a healthy mix, but there were a few projects that do interest him. Some of the projects are built and some are going to be built. The hydro contracts we sign are basically whatever they produce we will take.

New England is more dependent on natural gas than ever, and we have no increased supply. LNG is sending most of their supply overseas because they are paying two to three times more than we are. Also, according to the Jones Act LNG cannot be shipped interstate unless the tanker was built in the US and flies the US flag. This will make it harder to get LNG. Because of this we could run low on natural gas and be forced to have rolling blackouts. We are currently working on plans if this happens.

MCAN is getting ready to have another report come out.

Manager's Report:

Highland Road pond clean-up is complete. The bronze and stone plaque has been installed just east of the Maple Street crossing.

We just advertised for 30 pad mount transformers; the proposals are due December 8, 2022. They are going to be close to \$10K each.

David has about 1,100 meters changed out and is now reading about two-thirds of the meters in Town.

We received a Mutual Aid Commendation from APPA for our work in Bartow, FL.

Christmas dinner at the Century House, December 3, 2022, at 6:30PM.

Next meeting: December 14, 2022

Jim Kelley motioned to adjourn at 5:45PM. Jim Carbone seconded motion.
Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

James Carbone
Clerk