

Middleton Electric Light Commission

Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2024

The following individuals were in attendance:

Jim Kelley, Acting Chairman
Tim Houten
Jim Carbone

Michael Cloutier, Manager

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

Approval of Agenda:

Motion:

Tim Houten motioned to approve the agenda as written. Jim Carbone seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Approval of the Minutes:

Motion:

Tim Houten motioned to approve the minutes of September 18, 2024, as written. Jim Carbone seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Approval of October 16, 2024 minutes to be made at the December 11, 2024 meeting.

Financials:

Numbers are still looking good. YTD sales are up for the year due to the warm weather over the summer months. September 2024 costs were actually below last year, but the YTD price per KWH is very similar to last year. Mr. Cloutier predicts that by the end of the year the YTD cost will be very comparable to last year. Seabrook went down yesterday. An automatic trip occurred during

routine maintenance on feed water pump B, but they are confident it will be up sometime today. Financially we are fine, as reflected in our net income. The October numbers are starting to come in, they are up, so we should end the year strong. This is good because we will be spending money on the Town complex generator and the renovations to the MELD building. Tim Houten asked if there were any big projects coming soon. Mr. Cloutier stated that MIT may be adding another transformer, Kenworth will be adding truck charging stations, and the jail is doing some work with outside contractors, so we may be replacing wire there. Mr. Cloutier does not see a lot of growth in the near future.

Manager's Report:

There have been two outages since the last meeting. There was a transformer overload on Forest Street and a recloser operation at Fuller Pond caused by a squirrel. Both outages were quickly restored.

Last Monday five test pits were dug out back. There was a lot of undesirable fill, but we did hit good material and bed rock at the 10 foot to 12 foot level. The engineers are now working on a plan, and there is a meeting scheduled in December. As of this time, it appears there should not be a problem building on that site.

An ad was put in the paper yesterday for the generator. On the advice of our attorney, we only have to advertise it for a week. The proposals will be opened on December 5, 2024. Mr. Cloutier will then issue a purchase order soon after. It is still about a 90-week lead time for the generator. The gas company needs more details on the location of the generator and where the gas line will be coming in. We have already pulled some primary wire at the complex. We don't have a switch yet but do have pads for the switch and the transformers. The transformers have been set. We are keeping up with or are ahead of the contractor's schedule.

The rebuilding of Brigadoon is almost complete. All the three-phase runs are done. They are now working on the single-phase laterals and the cutovers. The Boston Street substation is now back to normal. It had been making noise. We drained the oil, got new pot heads, took the 3-phase switch out and energized it back up. It was still making the same noise. The oil was again changed but the noise came back for about 20 minutes and then went away. It is now back to normal. Luckily, we can still get parts as it is about 50 years old. We are continuing to convert the 5 KV and cutting over to 23, but it takes a long time.

Overhead is easy but with the underground we have to change every transformer. When this is done, we have additional crews from other towns to change out the transformers as quickly as possible. As a result, an outage could last for a few hours.

GML is going strong. Jonathan is getting busier with truck repairs. Pat Lavery is working full-time in Groveland as the COO. The rubber glove testing machine is there. Two washers and two dryers have been ordered to clean and dry the gloves and sleeves before they are tested. They then do an air test to make sure they hold air. This will all be up and running in December.

We are going to start transitioning our Christmas decorations. They use a lot of energy, are very heavy to install and awkward to store. We will transition to LED lighting. Mr. Cloutier will put the cost in the 2025 budget.

GML just bought a server for our GIS mapping software. We are using mPower, along with Groveland and Holden. We are going to transition from paying mPower for use of their server and will use our own. This will not only save us some money but also give us more control to do more functions within the GIS. We can also host other customers for a fee. MELD Christmas dinner is at the Hardcover Restaurant on December 14, 2024, at 6PM.

The list of abatements from Cheryl Silva is included in the Commissioners' packets.

Motion:

Tim Houten made a motion to accept the abatements as listed. Jim Carbone seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Next meeting: December 11, 2024

Tim Houten motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:10PM. Jim Carbone seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

James Carbone
Clerk