

Middleton Electric Light Commission

Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2025

The following individuals were in attendance:

Tim Houten, Chairman  
Frank Twiss  
Jim Kelley  
Jim Carbone  
Kenny Rollins  
Michael Cloutier, Manager

Chairman Houten called the meeting to order at 5:04PM.

***Approval of Agenda:***

**Motion:**

**Frank Twiss motioned to approve the agenda as written. Kenny Rollins seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.**

***Approval of the Minutes:***

**Motion:**

**Jim Kelley motioned to approve the minutes of July 16, 2025, as written. Frank Twiss seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.**

***Financials:***

Power supply was great in June, but not in July. Costs for June were low because the weather was seasonable, rates were reasonable, and we sold our recs for \$300K. July was very hot and expensive. There was a lot of usage, and we bought a lot on the open market. The price for KWH was quite high. This did not help our Profit and Loss Statement. Also, \$511,673.14 was paid to cover MELD's portion of the pension expense. Even though we bought a lot of energy this July, we bought even more in July 2024. Balance Sheet is healthy, and our

investments are up. Cash is trending down due to the generator for the town complex and the MELD building projects. We made two payments on the large generator, and we made payments to the architect for the MELD project. Rate stabilization is up \$700K from this time last year. The YTD interest income is \$981,754.04. If you back out the interest income, we only made about \$453K. The generator at the Town complex should save us about \$400K-\$500K per year. The Town will get 5% of the savings from the generator.

***Manager's Report:***

There were four outages since the last meeting. A squirrel, a transformer overload, vegetation, and a recloser issue at Bostik.

Efforts to sell the Stonybrook Intermediate Plant have been stalled. We had two interested participants, but negotiations have not been successful. Next step is to open it up to non-participants. The plant is now running a lot more because they are self-dispatching. The \$2.5 mil penalty in June was caused by a cooling pump that was offline. Even with the penalty they are still showing a \$400K-\$500K net profit for the year. MMWEC is talking about possibly repowering it, which may increase the value. We have bought 7 mil KWHs from NextEra Seabrook so far this year. Nuclear is expensive to start up, but once it is paid off, it is very reasonable.

We have finalized the customer side of the gas meter at the Town complex. It is underground under the parking lot. We had it drawn up by Cornerstone Engineering. Bill Renault did not like the depth and the path it took. So, even though Justin had already signed the authorization, we put Bill Renault and Cornerstone together and we were able to get it in on time. The ball is now in the contractor's court. We are working with National Grid on the other side.

Next Wednesday, we are going to have our final pre-construction meeting with the general contractor and the architect. The plan is to start the MELD project in early October. One of the first things they will do is the asbestos abatement. We will get a trailer for the bathrooms, but they will keep one bathroom open most of the time.

GML is doing very well. The glove testing has taken off and we are on track to do 400 pairs this month. They are going to buy two more washing machines and

dryers to keep up with production. They have recently hired a full-time college graduate, and Pat is pleased with him. They have also hired another tree crew for the Littleton area. We have two municipal light plants that have requested to join GML. Pat is talking with them, and they may be on board soon.

MEAM Conference starts tomorrow. Mr. Cloutier is going to Washington DC for a NEPPA meeting on October 7<sup>th</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup>.

We are part of a group called ENE-T, Energy New England Transmission. It is a way for us to get at the table for transmission because that is the one cost that is going up. We are trying to partner with some others on a project as financial partners. We would then own some transition rights which we could sell. This will be sometime in the future.

We got the heat rate contract from NextEra today for the years 2026, 2027, 2028 and 2029. We will buy a certain megawatt value each month. This represents anywhere from 10%-15% of our power needs.

We need to get a new POW flag for out front; Bernie is looking into it.

Next meeting: October 15, 2025

Frank Twiss motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:55PM. Jim Kelley seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

James Carbone  
Clerk