Middleton Electric Light Commission

Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2026

The following individuals were in attendance:

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

Chairman Houten called the meeting to order at 5:03PM

Approval of Agenda:
Motion:
Frank Twiss motioned to approve the agenda as written. Jim Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of the Minutes:
Motion:
Jim Kelley motioned to approve the minutes of February 18, 2026. Jim Carbone seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0

Financials:
January is showing a loss of $6K after the interest income of $328,027.69 is backed out. The January spot market was very expensive to purchase power. It was the highest spot market pricing since 2006. Luckily, we were not exposed too much to the market as we were 97% hedged. As was discussed before, we are going to increase the PPAC one cent. MELD rates are still lower than any other local electric department and far below the state average. Overall, with

our interest income we are in the black. February will be another tough month, but we should be okay.
Stonybrook Intermediate was transferred on March 1, 2026.
Cost wise we are up about 8/10 of a cent for KWH from 2025. We sold about 27K more KWH. Our cash is down from last year, but our investments are up. As stated before, cash is down due to the MELD building renovations and the generator at the Town complex.

Manager's Report:
There have been four outages since our last meeting. The biggest one was when a pine tree fell on Evans Road.

DPU report is completed. The signature page was incorrect but has been corrected. Mr. Cloutier will need new signatures from the Commissioners. The corrected signature page was passed around for the signatures.

Mr. Cloutier received notification today that our credit rating was affirmed at A+, stable. This is the result of our strong cash and reserve position.

We had an onsite meeting with National Grid concerning the gas generator. They believe that the permit from the State will be approved soon and they will be able to finish the underground portion rather quickly. We are finalizing the specifications for the large generator. The Caterpillar salesman said they have a unit that will meet our specifications. The Fire Department was able to secure a loaner generator for free to use for six months. Jim Carbone ran a test on the temporary generator, and it went very well.

MELD renovations of the building are complete. The new garage design is still going through some issues. The placement of the stabilizers, which Mr. Cloutier discussed at our last meeting, is still in discussion. As the anchor bolts were designed to be cast in place, the structural engineer is now saying they will not be as strong as they should be. The question now is who is responsible for the change-order.

MELD received the Platinum designation for the RP3 Award from APPA. We are now one point away from the highest designation of Diamond. We also received a Reliable Public Power Provider Award from APPA. Manole has been

instrumental in us getting these awards. He has done very well being in charge of the crew and any tasks he has been assigned. He and Junior work well together. Mr. Cloutier is going to classify his position to an Engineering and Operation Manager. His pay rate will also increase to reflect similar positions in other municipal electric departments.

AAPA Conference is being held in Boston beginning on June 26th. Let Mr. Cloutier know if you would like to attend.

Next meeting: April 15, 2026

Town Clerk, Ilene Twiss, stated how much she appreciated the help from the MELD linemen during the recent move to the new Town complex. She said they went above and beyond helping to make the transition a smooth one and highly praised their work ethic. So, in appreciation, she would like to arrange a luncheon to be delivered for the linemen. She will contact Mr. Cloutier for arrangements.

Jim Kelley motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:59PM. Kenny Rolllins seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

James Carbone
Clerk