Middleton Electric Light Commission

Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2026
The following individuals were in attendance:

Tim Houten, Chairman
Jim Kelley
Jim Carbone
Kenny Rollins
Michael Cloutier, Manager
Anne Finley, Assistant Office Manager

***Approval of Agenda:***
**Motion:**
**Kenny Rollins motioned to approve the agenda as written. Jim Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0.**

***Approval of the Minutes:***
**Motion:**
**Jim Kelley motioned to approve the minutes of April 15, 2026, as written. Jim Carbone seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-0**

***Financials:***
Year over year our power purchase price is higher than last year. The average year to date is about a half a penny more. We purchased more energy than in 2025, but we sold more energy. We purchased about 740K KWH more than last year. The adjustment we made to our energy charge a short time ago should be sufficient to cover these additional costs and Mr. Cloutier does not see the need to make any further adjustment. Our rates remain near the lowest in Massachusetts and New England.
Our March net income is negative due to the $767K loss in our investments for the month. However, the investments came back up in April. For the year to date we are only negative $48K. Operationally, we are fine as we have a positive net income for operations. All expenses are being covered. On the balance sheet, our cash is down almost $3 million. This due to the MELD building

project and the cost of the generator at the Town complex. This time last year we had $7.6 million and now we have $4.72 million. We still have enough money to finish the projects without touching the reserves. Year over year, even with the bad month, we have about $1.5 million more in all our reserve accounts.

***Manager's Report:***

We had one outage since our last meeting. Power went on and off six times. It was caused by an auto transfer recloser inside the Central Street substation. If one line goes dead the other line will pick it up. The controller failed. Manole is currently looking for an upgrade.

The crew approached Manole with the idea of new working hours for the summer. They were looking for the opportunity to earn more overtime hours during the weekdays. They wanted to start work at 6:30AM, have one morning break and work through lunch and leave at 2:30PM or on an overtime day work until 3:30PM. This way they could avoid working overtime on Saturday but could earn up to five hours overtime during the week. Kenny Rollins stated that with these hours there would be less breaking down a job and resetting the job after a lunch break. He said this would be a more productive use of the crew's time by setting up at 6:30AM and on the road to the job by 7:00AM. Not having to break down as often makes a big difference. Chairman Houten asked if there was enough work to warrant overtime and if the crew would be on the road to the job by 7:00AM. Mr. Cloutier said the work was definitely there and the time leaving the building would be monitored. The one drawback would be, if they needed a police detail the cost after 8 hours would jump to 12 hours. Mr. Cloutier will look further into this change.

There have been delays in the MELD building renovation. Some additional change orders are going to be needed. We are working with the architect and the general contractor to minimize the additional costs. Right now, we are discussing who should be paying for the changes. The biggest problem is the wind girts needed to support the studs. The architect is saying the contractor should have started earlier as the contract was signed in July 2025. The contractor is saying you don't get to the stud installation until later in the project. We have to pay for the additional steel because it is necessary. Mr.

Cloutier stated we will probably fall somewhere in the middle of responsibility for the additional cost. The parking lot was paved yesterday.
GML has been busy. They did not win a couple of tree trimming bids, but are keeping the tree crews busy. Pat is settling in nicely in his new full-time role as CEO. The glove testing business is booming. We are waiting for the delivery of our second glove testing machine, which will help with the turnaround time. The IT business has been very successful.

Mr. Cloutier formally introduced Anne Finely, who has been appointed as our Assistant Office Manager. Anne's professional background is well suited to acquiring the leadership responsibilities of all the office functions upon Cheryl's retirement. Anne will be receiving APPA's prestigious Robert E. Roundtree Rising Star Award at AAPA's conference in Boston this year. This award recognizes an up-and-coming leader in the public utility field.

APPA Conference is from June 26th to July 1st in Boston. Let Mr. Cloutier know if you would like to attend.

Our team did great at the Linemen's Rodeo held in May.
These are the results:

| | |
|---|---|
| 3rd place | 4KV Angle |
| 2nd place | X transformer changes out |
| 3rd place | Hurt man rescue |
| 2nd place | Guy wire installation |

Next Meeting: June 24, 2026

Jim Kelley motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:50PM. Jim Carbone seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

James Carbone
Clerk