

Middleton Electric Light Commission
Meeting Minutes
February 16, 2017

The following individuals were in attendance:

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

Chairman Twiss called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

Tim Houten motioned to accept the minutes of January 12, 2017 as written. Jim Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Financial PPA:

December financials look good. Interest income was \$114,934.88 which lead to a healthy December. The year-end net income in turn was \$1,180,893.56 for a very good year. When asked if he made any purchases Mr. Cloutier stated he had but they would not be reflected in these financials. Mr. Cloutier also stated that the bucket truck is not here yet as they had to replace a malfunctioning valve body. As this appears to be the last thing Kiley had to do with the truck it should be in soon. Kenny's truck is in and they are doing the liner and some lighting. They figure we should have the truck by the end of the month.

Mr. Cloutier said he is still in learning mode but thinks everything fell into place to maintain a positive income. In January we are going to start receiving power from a new contract, Shell Energy, for about \$0.0375 per KWH. Cost per KWH for December was \$0.094 compared to \$0.110 in November. The average for 2016 was \$0.098. Total 2016 KWH purchased was lower than 2015. Mr. Cloutier is going to work on setting up the financials to also reflect prior year

month and year to date figures on the current financials. Mr. Cloutier asked when the Town would like their "in lieu of taxes" figure and was told March.

Other:

LED Lighting:

Two lights are in the running, RemPhos and Evluma. Mr. Cloutier passed out some spec sheets for the two lights. Evluma does cost \$100.00 more per 40W light and \$90.00 more per 70W light. However, the warranty for Evluma is 10 years and 6 years for RemPhos but they will void the warranty if the customer does not do their own thermal testing. RemPhos rated life is 70K hours and Evluma's 100K hours. RemPhos does not have photo control failsafe as does Evluma. Evluma has internal circuitry that will continue to turn the light on and off. Evluma will also provide a tablet and software to remotely control the on, off, dimming and scheduling features up to 150 to 200 feet. Therefore, Mr. Cloutier recommends the Evluma lights.

Motion:

Jim Kelley made a motion to authorize Mr. Cloutier to purchase the Evluma lights. Tim Houten seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Danvers ROW:

Mr. Cloutier and Mr. Kelly met with Deidre to work through the logistics of the 12 year payments. There are some problems with that as Danvers would hold the deed until the final payment was made. We could do it with a lease type scenario but Deidre pointed out that at a future time the deal could be undone by Danvers. We could request the deed now and incur a debt with Danvers but this may require Town meeting approval. Deidre concluded that the cleanest way to do it would be to pay cash and have the deal finalized. Mr. Cloutier met with Mr. Lane and was assured that the Danvers Town Meeting had authorized the Town Manager to dispose all the property mentioned in previous negotiations. Mr. Cloutier would like to make a one-time payment, get the property in our name and close the deal. Mr. Cloutier knows it is a lot of money but we do have the money and our cash position is solid. Mr. Lane said there was no changing the negotiated amount we agreed to in our cash offer of \$1,965,000.00. Kenny and Bernie will verify all poles in Danvers and also the school ROW in Middleton. Mr. Cloutier will work with Deidre to finalize the documents.

Motion:

Tim Houten motioned to purchase the Danvers ROW in one payment of \$1,965,000.00. Chuck Clinch seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

Manager's Position:

Mr. Cloutier presented the third draft of his Memorandum of Employment. There was an error in who would pay the life insurance. The correction will read "the life insurance will be paid 50% by the Town and 50% by Mr. Cloutier". Mr. Cloutier presented the document to be signed by the Commissioners. All Commissioners signed off on the correction.

Storms:

During the first storm a tree went down on Webb Street and took out a section of primary. Another night Bernie and TJ went to Reading on mutual aid.

Secondary Connectors:

We are going to update secondary connectors to improve efficiency. The guys and Leah are excited as these will have only two stock items. They can be hot-sticked and can be used with a cordless drill on an insulated stick. This will save a lot of labor.

Mr. Cloutier feels all is going well.

Stipend for Commisioners:

Chuck Clinch proposed an increase in the Commissioners' stipend as they have not had an increase in fourteen years. Current stipend is \$1000.00.

Motion:

Chuck Clinch motioned to increase the Commissioners' annual stipend from \$1000.00 to \$1,250.00. Jim Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried 5-0.

APPA Rally:

Mr. Cloutier will be in Washington DC from February 26, 2017 to March 1, 2017.

Next meeting March 30, 2017.

Motion:

Tim Houten motioned to adjourn. Jim Kelley seconded the motion.

Meeting Adjourned: 5:40PM

Respectfully submitted,


James Kelley
Clerk