

Middleton Electric Light Commission
Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2022

The following individuals were in attendance:

Chuck Clinch, Acting Chairman

Jim Kelley

Jim Carbone

Michael Cloutier, Manager

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

Approval of Agenda:

Jim Kelley motioned to approve the agenda as written. Jim Carbone seconded the motion. Motioned carried 3-0.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

Jim Carbone motioned to approve the minutes of February 16, 2022, as written. Jim Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Financials:

Numbers are not good, but we were expecting this. We spent \$615K more in power supply through February 2022 than spent at the same time in 2021. Although we did buy almost 600K KWH more 2022. The price per KWH is up \$0.023 through March 2022. It will keep trending down through the summer because we have already purchased most of our energy through July. However, our operating cash is up almost \$600K from last February. Our investments, even though they are down, are up from last February and we still have more money than in February 2021. In perspective, we are still okay. Mr. Cloutier spoke with ENE and they agree it makes no sense to lock in power now. We have enough

money to get through this trend as we are in a good cash position because of our previous responsible use of funds.

Manager's Report:

Rail trail is still progressing. MIRTA has marked off the parking lot at the trail on Essex Street. They had Kenny look at it to make sure it was acceptable. The fences have been installed at the different street crossings of the trail. MIRTA gave hats to the Commissioners. The trees we planted along Maple Street between Liberty Street and Highland Road are in distress. Kenny is working with the DPW to try to save them. An Eagle Scout has undertaken a project to create a bronze plaque to commemorate the contributions MELD has made to the rail trail. It will be mounted on a rock near the Maple Street crossing.

We hired an Essex Technical High School engineering student to work with Manole and David. He has been scanning the plans and old transformer cards to digitize them. At some point, he will be working with Manole on the GS Mapping system. He will also be helping with the meter change outs.

We bought iPads for the crew. Some of the new uses will be as the before job tail board safety briefing, stock lists and the outage reports. Everyone will have an iPad so they will be able to enter how many customers are out and it will go on our Sharepoint portal so other staff can see it. The crew is adapting to change, it is a learning curve.

Co-op has met twice since the last meeting. The tax identification number had to be resubmitted. They will be interviewing candidates for the CEO position.

A 1996 Richardson's Dairy transformer is leaking. Kenny thinks he has the leak stopped temporarily. It has rotted away, so we are going to remove the pad and do the cleanup. There is a two-year lead time on transformers right now, but we fortunately had one available.

Mr. Cloutier passed out MCAN report. The article was in the Globe today. It claims municipal electric departments are not doing their part to use clean energy sources such as solar and wind power. The report found that 38% of the energy mix from municipal light plants is considered non-emitting. We are 47% non-emitting. It also found that many municipal light plants are technically on track to reach emission goals set for them in the state's most recent climate law passed in 2021.

NEPPA Lineman Rodeo will be held in Plymouth, NH on May 10th through 12th.

Next meeting: May 18, 2022

Jim Kelley motioned to adjourn at 6:20PM.

Respectfully submitted,

James Carbone
Clerk