

Middleton Electric Light Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2023

The following individuals were in attendance:

Chuck Clinch, Acting Chairman
Jim Kelley
Tim Houten
Jim Carbone
Michael Cloutier, Manager

Acting Chairman Chuck Clinch called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion:

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

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

Jim Kelley motioned to approve the minutes of April 26, 2023, as written. Jim Carbone seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Financials:

We purchased about 732,000KWH which is 77KWH more than in 2022. Year-to-date we are paying a little less than 2022, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a penny. March 2023 was more expensive than 2022, but year-to-date we are trending less. We purchased about 500K less KWH than 2022.

Investments are still down. At this point last year, we had \$700K more. Our cash position is fine. We are close to a million dollars more than before. This is good because we have to purchase 60 transformers, their cost will be about a million dollars. We are financially sound, so we do not need to be concerned.

Operationally, we are making money. If we back out the investment loss, we have a \$340K net. Our rate is where it should be and if prices keep trending down, we may be able to lower some of the current charges.

Manager's Report:

The MELD team represented us very well at the Linemen's Rodeo on May 9, 2023. They had a perfect score of 600, but the tie breaker is on time. MELD placed 5th for the fastest team. New Hampshire Electric Co-op finished first with a time of 25 minutes faster than any other team.

While at the rodeo, Mr. Cloutier and Line Foreman Chuck Clinch spoke to the Altec salesman. They had a demo hybrid truck there. The boom is exactly what we are looking to buy, except it had a double bucket. If we wanted that demo, they could remove one bucket and add a row of cabinets. The chassis is different from what we wanted. The motor is a little smaller, it is not an extended cab, it does not have the exhaust brake and it does not have the locking differential. These are differences we can live with. So, we will try it out for a week or two to see what the linemen think. If they do like it, we could save two years of waiting for another truck's lead time. As a hybrid, it will run for one hour on the battery. This could last all day because the boom is not continuously running. We have another truck on order that should be delivered at the end of summer or early fall. Car A, Mark's old vehicle, is ready for retirement. Manole has done research and is recommending an electric Ford 150 Lightning. We will be going out for bid soon.

Dave is retiring June 30th. The transition between Dave and Manole is going smoothly. Dave will go to work for the Co-op. He will be able to work for MELD as well as other departments. Dave did not want a retirement party. The MELD employees will have a pizza party for him in house.

Kenny is also retiring but still not sure when it will happen.

The Co-op is going well. We will have another meeting with GML soon.

We had a brief outage on April 29, 2023. It happened during the switching to take the Central Street sub-station off. When they threw the switch to close, one of the blades did not go all the way in. It was the only outage in April.

The NEPPA Conference is from August 20th to August 23rd in Groton, CT at the Mystic Marriott. Let Mr. Cloutier know if you are planning to attend.

Mr. Cloutier had a meeting with Middleton resident, Tom Skinner. They discussed our power supply and environmental efforts. Mr. Skinner said he would come up with ideas for a future agenda.

Next meeting June 21, 2023.

Tim Houten motioned to adjourn at 5:48PM. Jim Kelley seconded motion. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

James Carbone
Clerk