

Middleton Electric Light Commission
Meeting Minutes
July 16, 2025

The following individuals were in attendance:

Tim Houten, Chairman
Frank Twiss
Jim Kelley
Michael Cloutier, Manager

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. Motioned carried 3-0.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion:

Jim Kelley motioned to approve the minutes of June 11, 2025, as written. Frank Twiss seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Financials:

Power supply is still up from last year on average, but it is trending down. We have made money. Our net income for May was \$509,118.39, and if we back out the \$299,746.06 interest income, operationally the net income is \$209,372.33. The YTD operating income after backing out the interest income is \$436,924.87. It is down from 2024, but we are very healthy in cash. We will be spending a lot this year between the generator project and the building renovations. This will

affect our in lieu of tax payment, which will be less than last year. There is no need to raise the rates at this time.

We are still waiting to hear back on the heat rate prices. Mr. Cloutier spoke to Scott last week and is awaiting a reply. It is not an easy product to price.

Bid Award for the Renovation Project:

Mr. Cloutier included the letter from Gienapp Architects in the Commissioners packages. They are recommending Gage Construction out of Newburyport. Gage came in about 15% lower than the original bid. They had good references, good DCAMM score (95 out of 100) and are recommended by Gienapp Architects. They also have done some local municipal projects. They are anxious to get going. Mr. Cloutier received a call yesterday from them wondering how the process was going. The bids ranged from \$2.6 mil to \$3.7 mil. Mr. Cloutier thanked the Board for their support.

Manager's Report:

There have been four outages since our last meeting. They were caused by a squirrel, an overload and two tree limbs.

GML is still strong, they cannot get the glove testing out fast enough. They are currently looking at an additional used glove testing machine. Dave Burch, Jonathan Jones and Dave Ogden are all busy.

Update on Stonybrook Intermediate shows since our last meeting notification was sent out to MMWEC that we passed the resolution. MMWEC has sent notifications to all the other project participants. A deadline of July 25, 2025 was given to all participants that may want to purchase our share. Once that happens, we will negotiate a price, although the price has probably already been established because Littleton just sold their share about two months ago. This will get us out of the supply obligation. The plant recently lost \$2.5 mil because the load was so high there was not enough capacity pledged for that day. There is a balancing ratio, and even if you performed at 100%, you still had to pay 2.7% more at \$9,337 a megawatt hour for how many megawatts you were short for 3 hours and 5 minutes. It ran at reduced capacity because a cooling pump was down.

We just processed the second payment for the generator project, so production will begin. The generator is going to be ahead of schedule. The design has been finalized. The pad is not in yet. The transformer has been delivered, and we will have to set it on the pad. The generator enclosure will be the longest lead time. The foundation and the gas service should be going in. We did get the design finalized for the gas service. The contractor is going to take care of it. The color we voted for the generator is Windsor Green. They are still looking at February 2026 for the opening.

The MELD building renovation bids came in 15% below the estimate. Mr. Cloutier will get a notification letter out to the contractors, and we will have a kickoff meeting within the next few weeks to set up the schedule. We will have to make arrangements for a porta-potty trailer for the MELD employees to use while the bathrooms are being renovated.

Next meeting: September 17, 2025

Frank Twiss motioned to adjourn at 5:30PM. Jim Kelley seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

James Carbone
Clerk