



Town of Plaistow, NH
Energy Committee
145 Main Street, Plaistow, NH 03865

ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES
June 5, 2019

Call to Order: 5:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Tim Moore, *Chair*
Gerry Marchand, *Vice Chair*
Geoffrey Adams, *excused*
Maxann Dobson
Julian Kiszka, *Selectmen's Representative*
Peter Bealo, *Alternate*
Francine Hart, *Alternate Selectmen's Representative*

Also present were: Planning Department Administrative Assistant; Cab Vinton, Plaistow Public Library Director, and Steve Lieber, Affinity LED Lighting, LLC

It was noted that P. Bealo's warrant was signed by the Board of Selectmen (BOS).

★ P. Bealo was appointed as a voting member in place of G. Adams

Agenda Item 2: Review/Approval of Minutes

April 3, 2019 Minutes

★ G. Marchand moved, second by M. Dobson, to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2019 meeting.

J. Kiszka noted that the name of his subcommittee on alternative fuel vehicles is not correct on the town's website.

There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 5-0-0 U/A.

Agenda Item 3: LED Streetlight Project – Affinity LED Lighting, LLC

It was noted that there had been a meeting with the Town Manager earlier in the day to work out the final details of the contract with Affinity. The meeting resulted in a final agreement and the contract for the LED Street Light conversion would be signed soon.

S. Lieber gave an overview of the conversion process. He spoke about the "color" of the lights, noting that they are "dark sky" compliant. Mr. Lieber spoke about the history of color of LED lights and what is now the preferred value. There was discussion about the importance of adequate, but not duplicate coverage, and the consistency of the overall lighting plan.

There was discussion about the conversion process. It was noted that Affinity, once they have the contract and a deposit, will do a complete "boots on the ground" survey and inventory of the existing town-owned street lights. That will then be reconciled with

what Unitil has as the Net Book Value (NBV). Once Affinity knows where all the lights are they will then work with the Town to develop a coverage plan using the existing pole locations and applicable roadway standards. The final installations will be GIS mapped for the Town's use.

It was noted that street lights on State roads and private property will not be included in the conversion. Lights in locations that are on the town meters, such as PARC, will be included in the lighting survey.

There was discussion regarding maintenance contracts. Steve Lieber offered that Affinity could present a maintenance contract to the Town, but noted they might do just as well going with Unitil for after-warranty maintenance. He added that there is a 10-year warranty on their equipment. It was noted that if there are going to be any equipment failures they are most likely to happen within the first year, which is 100% covered by the installation.

It was suggested that Mr. Lieber contact the schools regarding the conversion of their lights.

Agenda Item 4: RFP for Town Hall LED Lighting (Energy Audit Subcommittee)

F. Hart noted a draft of the Request for Proposals (RFP) that was drawn up to solicit bids for the Town Hall LED lighting conversion.

T. Moore offered a couple of suggested changes:

- In the scope of work include language that would allow for the “reduction and/or relocation” of existing fixtures
- Give the Town the option to keep any spare bulbs and fixtures that may result from the conversion for possible use in other buildings that have not been converted yet.

C. Vinton suggested that it may be a Unitil contractual issue. It was suggested that the discussion about disposal be with the contractor.

F. Hart asked if the EComm would be okay with her moving the RFP forward to the Town Manager with the changes as discussion. Consensus of the EComm was yes, the RFP could move forward with the suggested changes.

Agenda Item 5: Energy CIP

T. Moore noted that he was still putting the Energy Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) information together and would have it for the EComm at the next meeting.

Agenda Item 6: Energy Aggregation

T. Moore reminded that Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) was working on a regional electric aggregate.

D. Voss noted that the Town does have a third-party provider agreement with Taylor Energy for both electric and gas, and the contract does have an “evergreen” clause that automatically renews unless it is terminated one (1) year prior.

There was a discussion about rates and how the RPC program would assist communities in getting better rates. It was noted that the Library was looking into participating in the RPC aggregation program.

★ M. Dobson moved, second by G. Marchand, to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that they begin the process to notify Taylor Energy to not renew the electric contract. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 5-0-0 U/A.

The contract with Taylor would have to be terminated prior to the Town being able to join the RPC Electric Aggregate.

Agenda Item 7: Subcommittee Reports

Buildings Energy Subcommittee

M. Dobson noted that Town Manager Mark Pearson is beginning discussion with salt shed vendors. Solar panels are intended to be part of that discussion.

F. Hart offered that they are looking to move forward with bids for the envelope sealing of the Town Hall and Library. She also noted that she was working with Building Maintenance Supervisor, Paul Lucia, on alternate ideas for windows for the Museum.

Alternative Vehicle Fuels Subcommittee

Nothing to report at this time

Agenda Item 8: Old Business

There was no old business before the EComm at this meeting.

Agenda Item 9: New Business

Subcommittees - Discussion

T. Moore suggested that two subcommittees, Energy Audit Committee and the LED Street Light Subcommittees, have met their goals and can now be dissolved. The new projects that have come about are best handled by the EComm as a whole.

C. Vinton suggested that the LED Street Light Subcommittee stay in effect at least until the design work was completed. There was agreement.

★G. Marchand moved, second by M. Dobson that the Energy Audit Subcommittee be dissolved. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 5-0-0 U/A.

T. Moore offered that the EComm start discussion about a long-term project on how best to utilize solar at the landfill site. Due to the time constraints of this meeting, the topic will be added to the next agenda.

There were no additional matters before the Committee and the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:
Dee Voss, Administrative Assistant