



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

**ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES
May 5, 2021**

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Tim Moore, *Chair*
Gerry Marchand, *Vice Chair*
Geoffrey Adams, *absent*
Peter Bealo, *absent*
John DeRoche, *Selectmen's Ex-Officio*

Also present: Dee Voss, *Planning Department Administrative Assistant*

Agenda Item 2: Review/Approval of Minutes

April 7, 2021, Minutes

★ G. Marchand moved, second by J. DeRoche, to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2021, meeting. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 3-0-0 U/A.

Agenda Item 3: Discussion with Joshua Singer, Clean Energy NH

Joshua Singer, Program Coordinator, Clean Energy NH (CENH), was present via Zoom.

J. Singer explained his position with CENH and the services that are offered to member municipalities, such as: Information Events/Webinars, Local Energy Solutions Workgroups, and Community Discussions and Forums. He noted that CENH was currently following pending legislation that could impact the Community Aggregation program.

T. Moore noted that there were two (2) areas that the EComm was looking for assistance with, the first being the Energy Aggregation/Energy Plan, which T. Moore has a draft copy and would like to forward to J. Singer for comment. It was noted that the May 1, 2021, deadline had passed, and Mr. Singer would look into the next deadline.

T. Moore added that the second item he was hoping for assistance with was in prioritizing a list for the Town's energy projects. It was noted that the S.E.E.D.S. audit reports for the Library, Town Hall, and Historical Society buildings, had been forwarded to Mr. Singer.

There was discussion about the projects that had been completed, LED Streetlights, Town Hall and Library LED lighting conversions, and projects pending or in process, Public Safety Complex LED lighting conversion and installation of solar panels on the Salt Shed roof. It was noted that there had been discussion regarding a solar array on the Town's capped landfill, but that was on hold as the final cover is under repair. It was also noted that since no town-owned vehicles are scheduled for replacement, that discussions about electric and alternate fueled vehicles have been put off as well.

J. Singer noted that the Town should focus on the easier things first, such as lighting, heating systems, weatherization, and solar projects as they are easy to do and often will have a rebate/incentive available for completion.

G. Marchand asked if there were any incentive programs available for homeowners.

J. Singer replied that there may be some for weatherization, but that it would be best to check with Unitil directly. He noted that the NH Saves website offers additional tips and links to funding sources as well.

T. Moore offered that he would also like to put together a cable access program and an Energy Fair, with information for homeowners. He added that he has approached the YMCA for a venue but wasn't sure if such events have greater impact in the spring or the fall. T. Moore added that he had approached the schools, but they didn't not seem very enthusiastic about participating.

J. Singer offered that deciding the focus of the Energy Fair would be a determining factor in when to host it.

T. Moore invited J. Singer to return for the June EComm meeting to discuss the next steps.

There was discussion about Unitil rebates/incentives.

Agenda Item 4: Old Business – LED Streetlight Policy – HSAC Meeting

D. Voss offered that a meeting of the Highway Safety Advisory Committee (HSAC) and that she would get a copy of the proposed LED Streetlight Policy to them for review and comment, then would report back to the EComm. The concern about the policy is that the proposed turnaround time for HSAC comment is 35 days, and they only meet quarterly. D. Voss will ask if they HSAC would consider scheduling a special meeting to consider requests filed under the streetlight policy.

Agenda Item #5: New Business

D. Voss updated the EComm on the LED lighting conversion at the Public Safety Complex.

J. DeRoche offered that the Board of Selectmen were having discussions regarding other energy saving measures, such as thermostat settings.

There were no additional matters before the Committee and the meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Dee Voss
Administrative Assistant