

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

## ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES August 5, 2020

Call to Order: 5:08 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Tim Moore, *Chair* 

Gerry Marchand, *Vice Chair* Geoffrey Adams, *excused* 

Julian Kiszka, Selectmen's Ex-Officio member, participating by phone

Peter Bealo, Alternate

Jay DeRoche, Selectmen's Alternate Ex-Officio member

Also present: Cab Vinton, Plaistow Public Library Director

Tim Moore appointed Peter Bealo as a voting member.

Peter Bealo made a motion to allow Julian Kiszka to participate by phone. Tim Moore seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0-1 with Julian abstaining. Gerry Marchand was unable to vote because he has not yet been reappointed to a subsequent term. Until the motion passed, Julian could not participate and therefore Jay DeRoche voted in his stead. After the motion passed, Julian could and did vote as the Selectmen's Representative.

#### **Agenda Item 2: Review/Approval of Minutes**

Review/approval of the February 5, 2020 minutes was postponed to September 2, 2020.

## Agenda Item 3: Review and recommendation to BOS for Salt Shed Solar Panel RFP

The Energy Committee received two responses to the RFP for solar panel installation on the salt shed roof of approximately 3,000 square feet. One from Revision Energy, Brentwood, NH for \$103,915 and the second response from Taf Solar, Jackson, NJ for \$164,786. The warrant that passed at the 2020 Town Meeting for the final phase of construction for the Public Works Facility included \$350,000 for the design and construction of the salt shed and solar panels. The warrant did not specify a dollar amount for the solar panels; however, most people seem to recall that \$68,000 was allocated to the panels.

Committee members had concerns and questions about both proposals. Tim Moore will prepare a letter to both respondents with the questions and whether or not they would work with the Town to reduce the scope of the project to \$64,000 with a \$4,000 contingency set aside for unanticipated issues that may arise in the reduced scope of work. Both letters will be sent to all committee members for review. We are starting to run into a time crunch to get panels installed by the end of the year that was the original intent.

### **Agenda Item 4: Project Review**

- a. Town Hall LED Conversion. Affinity is ready to get started wit this project, they are waiting for the entire Town Hall to be opened to the public.
- b. Energy Audit Project review. The purpose of the review is to get everyone on the same page about the status of the various projects complete, in progress, not to be done, not yet started. Tim Moore will send out a list of the projects within 2 weeks.
- c. Alternative Fueled Vehicles. Julian has a presentation he would like to give the Energy Committee and would like to ask our Town Manager, Mark Pearson, and Police Chief, Doug Mullin to attend as well. Since the September meeting looks to be pretty full with a review, if any, of the responses from the solar panel letters, and the project review. Julian agreed to postpone his presentation to the October meeting.
- d. Landfill solar array. This project is on hold pending the status of the landfill cap repair and a more liberal allowance for municipality net metering.
- e. Town building roof-top solar panel installation. We have had only brief discussions about the feasibility of installing solar panels on the Public Works Garage, the Public Safety Complex, and/or other town buildings.
- f. Public Safety Complex LED conversion. Earlier discussions indicated that Unitil could do an audit of the existing lighting and presumably provide an estimate of the Return on Investment (ROI) of the LED conversion. The sense of the Committee was that we should ask if Affinity could do a similar audit with the likelihood of coming to an agreement with the Town to actually do the conversion. No further discussion ensued.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Old Business**

a. Streetlight LED Conversion. Affinity was set to convert the 4 decorative lights that were installed as part of the Safe-Routes-To-School project but could not complete the task because they did not have the proper conversion kit on hand. They will complete this step as part of the Town Hall Conversion project.

#### **Agenda Item 6: New Business**

- a. Member Resignation. Maxann Dobson has resigned from the Committee. The Committee recommended that Peter Bealo be made a regular, voting member in her stead. Tim Moore will send an email to Francine Hart, Chair of the BOS, passing on the Committee's recommendation.
- b. Expired Term. Gerry Marchand's term has expired. Gerry is still interested in serving on the Committee and the Committee recommended the BOS appoint Gerry for another term. Tim Moore will send Francine Hart an email passing on the Committee's recommendation.

# Agenda Item 7: Adjournment

There were no additional matters before the Committee and Tim Moore adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:
Timothy E. More

Tim Moore