



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

**ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES
September 20, 2017**

Call to Order: 5:11 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Julian Kiszka, *Chair*
Geoffrey Adams, *Vice Chair*
Tim Moore
Francine Hart
Gerry Marchand

Also present were: Dee Voss, *Interim Planning Coordinator*, Cab Vinton, *Plaistow Public Library Director*

Agenda Item 2: Minutes of August 16, 2017 Meeting

The minutes were deferred to the next meeting.

Agenda Item 3: Update – Plaistow Public Library – LED Retrofit Project

C. Vinton reported that the contract with Sylvania is in limbo over language that is not favorable to the Town. Town Counsel Sumner Kalman has helped draft a counter proposal which is being reviewed by Sylvania legal.

C. Vinton added that Unutil is aware of that the contract negotiations are in progress and either the project will meet this year's rebate deadline or it will not. It was noted that once the contract is signed it would be four (4) weeks before installation could be scheduled.

There was discussion about the contract and how it appeared to be a "bait and switch." It was noted that while it was a little contract for Sylvania, it was a big deal for Matt D'Atri who has invested a lot of time into the Plaistow Library Project.

There was discussion as to how a delay might affect the Unutil rebate. It was suggested that while there is no guarantee that Unutil would have a rebate program in 2018, or how much might be available then, if the project is delayed until then it would put Plaistow in a higher position for new rebate funding.

It was noted that Prism, one of the bidders for the Library project, requesting the Board of Selectmen (BOS) reconsider that awarding of the project. There was discussion as to whether or not there should be a response from the Energy Committee (EComm). It was decided that the letter was not address to the EComm and therefore there should be no response. C. Vinton will make a very generic response that the process had already been worked through and thanking them for their participation.

Agenda Item 4: Update on Street Lights (Affinity)

D. Voss reported that John Branagan from Affinity is still working on gathering information from Unutil regarding the tariff and the process of converting the street lights to LED fixtures. There is no additional information to report since they were before the EComm. Mr. Branagan was asked if a tour of the facility would be available and his response was that he would be happy to host the committee for a tour.

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Agenda Item 5: Discussion of Lighting Upgrades for Town Hall (Great Room)
Agenda Item 6: Discussion of Future Projects for CIP Planning

There was discussion about additional projects.

- Solar array on capped landfill – has the State increased the cap and can a project be engineered to be shovel-ready to put Plaistow in the queue if there is an increase.
- Energy audit to identify energy-improvement projects to be developed into a Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). C. Vinton will help with a list of qualified auditors.
- Working with the Timberlane Regional School District (TRSD) regarding an outdoor lighting project.

T. Moore explained how the CIP process works, noting that it projects capital improvements over a six (6) year horizon and how to fund them without causing spikes in the town budget or tax rate.

It was noted that energy projects would have a costs saving and return on investment that many other CIP projects do not have. There is hope that with a successful Library project that voters will approve a request for additional funding for more projects. There was discussion about proposing a \$25,000 to \$30,000 Warrant Article for deposit to the Energy Capital Reserve Fund (CRF). It was again noted that the starting point is the Energy Audit to better identify where projects will make the biggest impact compared to the investment costs.

There was discussion regarding an Energy Fair in coordination with the TRSD with the potential formation of a committee with students and EComm members. T. Moore will contact Peter Bealo and Sue Sherman, members of the School Board.

T. Moore and F. Hart will work together on crafting a draft energy Warrant Article to present to the BOS for consideration.

There were no additional matters before the Committee and the meeting was adjourned at 5:59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Dee Voss
Interim Planning Coordinator