



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

**ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES  
August 15, 2018**

**Call to Order:** 5:12 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** Julian Kiszka, *Selectmen's Representative, Chair, excused*  
Geoffrey Adams, *Vice Chair, absent*  
Tim Moore  
Gerry Marchand  
George Hamblen, *excused*  
Maxann Dobson, *Alternate, excused*  
Jake Kennedy, *Alternate, excused*  
Francine Hart, *Alternate Selectmen's Representative*

Also present were: Cab Vinton, *Plaistow Library Director*; and Dee Voss, *Planning Coordinator*

**Agenda Item 2: Minutes**

July 18, 2018 Meeting Minutes

**★T. Moore moved, second by G. Marchand to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2018 meeting. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 3-0-0 U/A.**

**Agenda Item 3: Election of New Officers**

Since there were a number of members unable to attend this meeting, the election of chair and vice chair was postponed to the next meeting.

F. Hart suggested that no matter how many members are present at the next meeting that election of officers is done. All agreed.

**Agenda Item 4: Subcommittee Reports**

Energy Audit Subcommittee

T. Moore offered that there had been a review of bids received for energy audits of the municipal buildings. He noted that Margaret Dillon of S.E.E.D.S was the lowest bidder. It was also noted that there are funds available to offset the costs of the audits.

There was discussion regarding the costs of the bid, noting that other bids were as much as twice Ms. Dillon's bid. The money for the audits will come from the Energy CRF (Capital Reserve Fund).

There was discussion about whether or not to ask the Courts if they would like to pay for the cost to audit the Courthouse. It was suggested that the list generated from the

Courthouse audit may become a demand list from the Court, or a negotiating tool when the contract came up for renewal.

There was discussion if it was worth the \$1,900 for the audit of the Historical Museum building. It was noted that the actual cost would only be ~\$1,000 with the Unitil rebates. There was discussion about whether the estimated \$200/year cost savings would be worth the audit costs and the cost of what improvements might be needed for energy savings.

It was decided that the Courthouse and the Historical Museum would not be included in the audit now. It was also noted that knowing the costs would be helpful for future planning.

**★G. Marchand moved, second by T. Moore to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that S.E.E.D.S. be selected to do energy audits for the Town Hall, Library and Public Safety Complex and that the money be taken from the Energy CRF to pay for it. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 3-0-0 U/A.**

#### Public Works Garage Energy Subcommittee

M. Dobson had provided an update on the Public Works Garage Energy Subcommittee via email.

G. Marchand noted that he had attended the meeting and solar on the salt shed was deferred for the time being.

There was discussion regarding the proposed orientation of the Salt Shed at the new Public Works Garage. It was noted that they would be able to put solar on the structure in the future as funding allows, but at this time the concern is getting the buildings built and occupied. The concern is the cost already estimated for Phase 2 construction and if voters would approve additional funding for solar. Both the main building and the Salt Shed will be built to accommodate solar in the future.

There was discussion about tax benefits for solar structures and whether they would be available in the future and how that may play into the decision-making process.

#### LED Street Lighting

D. Voss offered that she has been in communication with Affinity Lighting, who have been working with Unitil to address the LED Street Light Tariff. They have offered to come to the next Energy Committee meeting for an update.

D. Voss asked if the Board would consider moving its meetings from the third Wednesday of the month to the first. She noted that Greg Colby, Finance Director and Assistant Town Manager will now be the executive liaison for the Committee and he has a potential conflict on the third Wednesdays. D. Voss also noted that the third Wednesday of the month is Public Hearing night for the Planning Board and it's has become increasingly difficult to adequately prepare for both meetings.

It was noted that changing the meeting date permanently would require an amendment to the Charter. The members decided to table the discussion about a permanent change until the next meeting, hoping more members will be present. However, they did take a vote about scheduling the next meeting to the first Wednesday.

**★T. Moore moved, second by F. Hart to hold the next meeting of the Energy Committee on September 5, 2018. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 3-0-0 U/A.**

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

C. Vinton asked if anyone had checked the reference provided by S.E.E.D.S.

F. Hart noted that still needed to be done and she volunteered to do the reference check.

#### Energy Fair

T. Moore noted that he has been trying to contact the Timberlane Regional School District, the Dean of the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) program, to discuss the possibility of an Energy Fair. He explained that he would like to involve the students and energy projects they may design. He would also like to have vendors who offer energy efficient products that residents and businesses might be able to take advantage of. T. Moore noted that he has not been able to make that connection yet, but will keep trying. He estimated that he would need 10-15 volunteers.

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

There was no new business before the Energy Committee at this meeting.

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

Respectfully Submitted:

Dee Voss  
Planning Coordinator