



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

RENEWABLE ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES

MEETING DATE: Wednesday, February 17, 2016 @ 5:00 pm

PRESENT: Julian Kiszka, Chairman; Geoffrey Adams, Vice Chairman; Greg Jones, Town Planner; Sean Fitzgerald, Town Manager; Beth Hossack, Administrative Assistant; Tim Moore, Planning Board arrived at 5:15 (this established a quorum)

ABSENT: Tony Costanzo, Jake Kennedy

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 5:03 PM

We do not have a quorum. We will not vote on the minutes from our last meeting. This will be an informal sub-committee meeting.

Sean begins by updating the committee on the meeting he attended in Concord with the PUC (Public Utilities Commission) and Unitil. Greg was also in attendance and Julian was participating on the phone as a conference caller. The purpose of the meeting was to help Plaistow move forward with LED lighting for the town's streetlights. We do not own the streetlights and Unitil is not required to sell them according to NH State Law. However, Sean was able to get a price of \$130,000. Tanko Lighting will help us secure procurement if Unitil agrees to sell the street lights. The goal is to reduce the cost of electricity from approximately \$100,000 to \$15,000/year and use environmentally friendly lighting. Unitil would not make a commitment to sell the lights or give a good indication of when they would be willing to switch to LED fixtures on their own. Sean requested an update from Unitil within 30 days. In the meantime, Sean will reach out to other municipalities to discuss maintaining the status quo vs. moving forward with LED lighting. Once these other communities see the cost savings they most likely will want to rally with Plaistow to move forward with the process. Ultimately we want to help Unitil help us and other's to save money. Sean feels the Renewable Energy Committee should be involved in the community outreach/summit. We do not have a lot of leverage but we may be able to get Norman Major and Chuck Morse to step in on a political level to help. Discussion ensues.

Tim arrives at 5:15. We now have established a quorum for voting.

Julian mentions we need to prepare as an "IPBF" or Initial Preparation Battle Field. Julian also mentions that Sean did a great job speaking at the meeting.

Sean mentions we will come up with other means of pressure if need be.

MARCH MEETING:

Greg will schedule Dan Clapp, the NH Branch Manager from Revision Energy to attend our meeting. By having a professional at our meeting we will be able to have our questions answered and gain more knowledge about LED lighting and solar initiatives. One viewpoint is that Net Metering is not a solar subsidy. It will be helpful to hear what a professional feels about this viewpoint.

TOWN REPORT:

Greg states he will email the committee the report submitted for the 2015 Annual Town Report on behalf of the Renewable Energy Committee.

Geoff states we will continue to welcome new members to the committee.

Motion by T. Moore to approve the minutes of January 21, 2015. Second by G. Adams. No discussion. Vote: 3-0-0, Motion passes.

Renewables Committee Action Items				
Action Items	Date	Description	Due Date	Status
1	1/21/16	Street Light Audit		Pending – the BOS approved money but it still needs to be taken from the budget somewhere
2	1/21/16	Committee involved with Safety Expansion Lighting/Heating Systems		Must be approved by the BOS. Sean will recommend it to the BOS.

J. Kiszka as Chairman adjourns the meeting at 5:41

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hossack,
Recording Secretary