



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

**ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES
November 6, 2019**

Call to Order: 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Tim Moore, *Chair*
Gerry Marchand, *Vice Chair*
Geoffrey Adams
Maxann Dobson
Julian Kiszka, *Selectmen's Ex-Officio, excused*
Peter Bealo, *Alternate*
Francine Hart, *Alternate Selectmen's Ex-Officio*

Also present were: Dee Voss, *Planning Department Administrative Assistant* and Sam Cafiso, *LED Streetlight Subcommittee Member*

Agenda Item 2: Review/Approval of Minutes

October 2, 2019 Minutes

★ G. Marchand moved, second by F. Hart, to approve the minutes of the October 2, 2019 meeting.

Discussion:

S. Cafiso noted that on page 2, there is a double statement in the paragraph attributed to him. The last line of the paragraph is not necessary and should be deleted.

There was no additional discussion on the motion. The vote was 5-0-0 to approve the minutes as amended.

Agenda Item 3: Discussion with John Dunster, ReVision Energy – Landfill Solar

John Dunster, ReVision Energy was present for the discussion.

J. Dunster noted that Revision is an employee-owned company had been working in the solar industry since 2003. The company is a "Certified B Corporation" and has done thousands of installations for both profit and non-profit customers, including many New Hampshire municipalities and schools.

Mr. Dunster went through a PowerPoint presentation which illustrated what Revision can provide for the Town with solar installation on Town-owned buildings, such as the Public Works Garage; Public Safety Complex and Landfill Cap. He spoke about different options for capturing and using the solar electricity, including ownership and lease agreements. Solar installations on the town-owned buildings are currently and option for the Town to consider, however, the Landfill Cap is problematic until there is a legislative change in the net metering.

J. Dunster explained how Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) work, where the land is leased and the solar is installed and operated by another party. He explained what tax benefit, incentives and rebates may be available and how billing would work.

J. Dunster noted that ReVision provides a turn-key installation that would include assistance with all rebate/incentive paperwork.

J. Dunster also explained how a solar conversion would affect third-party providers.

There was discussion Salt Shed proposed for the new Public Works Facility. It was noted that there is some conduit already in the ground in anticipation of the need to connect the Salt Shed to the main building. It was noted that the Warrant Article would include a provision for solar on the shed. There was also discussion about purchasing the panels outright for the project.

J. Dunster talked about some pending and proposed legislation and how it would affect solar installations in the future.

Agenda Item 4: LED Streetlighting Conversion - Update

An email from John Branagan of Affinity LED Lighting was provided to the EComm. It noted that they are still waiting for a response from Unitil on the "not founds" from their GIS mapping of the streetlights. The install date has not yet been set, but the fixtures are in town and ready to be installed.

There was a question regarding whether or not rebates would be available for the conversion of the four (4) ornamental streetlights that were part of the Safe Routes to Schools project. D. Voss will check with Affinity to see if there are rebates available.

Agenda Item 5: Town Hall LED Lighting Conversion – Update & Recommendation

The EComm was provided with a spreadsheet of the three (3) proposals that were submitted for the Town Hall LED Lighting Conversion RFP. The proposal with the lowest cost number as well as the largest rebate/incentives was with Affinity LED Lighting.

It was noted that there were two (2) payment options included in the Affinity proposal. One that proposed a lump-sum payment of the contract the other which proposed an on-bill financing. It was also noted that no matter which payment option was recommended, the \$20,802 would have to be paid at the time of the contract and that we would receive the rebates after the project was completed.

★ F. Hart move, second by M. Dobson, that the Energy Committee make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen to contract with Affinity LED Lighting for the Town Hall LED Conversion Project. I further move that Payment Option #2, (\$20,802 project costs, \$10,401 estimated incentives/rebates and on-bill financing of \$10,401) be recommended.

T. Moore noted that when he and other members of the EComm toured the facility they were quite impressed. He also noted that they are a local company, who employ veterans.

F. Hart offered a question from J. Kiszka. He asked if perhaps a re-designing of the lighting in Town Hall, particularly the large meeting room should be done prior to awarding a contract. It was suggested that there was no gain in paying for unnecessary fixtures if some could be eliminated at prior to new LED ones being installed.

D. Voss offered to speak with her contacts at Affinity to see how much a re-design might cost and the pros and cons of a new design versus a one-for-one replacement.

There was consensus of the Board to delay the recommendation to the Board of Selectmen until the questions about a potential re-design could be answered.

Agenda Item 6: Energy CIP

T. Moore noted that every time he gets close to a final Energy CIP product, new information is received that changes the CIP. He hopes to have a Energy CIP available at the next meeting.

Agenda Item 7: Subcommittee Reports

Buildings Energy Subcommittee

Reviewed as part of the discussion with J. Dunster

Alternative Vehicle Fuels Subcommittee

F. Hart offered that J. Kiszka had asked her to inform the EComm that he is gathering some information on a study in California and will be providing an update soon.

Agenda Item 8: Old Business

There was no old business discussed at this meeting

Agenda Item 9: New Business

There was no new business discussed at this meeting.

There were no additional matters before the Committee and the meeting was adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:
Dee Voss, Administrative Assistant