



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

**ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES  
May 1, 2019**

**Call to Order:** 5:05 p.m.

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

Also present were: Mark Pearson, Town Manager; Dee Voss, Planning Department Administrative Assistant; Cab Vinton, Plaistow Public Library Director, and Peter Bealo, LED Streetlighting Subcommittee Member

**Agenda Item 2: Election of Officers**

Chair

★ *G. Adams nominated T. Moore as Chair, second by M. Dobson. There were no additional nominations. T. Moore was asked if he accepted the nomination and he did. Vote 5-0-0 U/A.*

Vice Chair

★ *M. Dobson nominated G. Marchand as Vice Chair, second by T. Moore. There were no additional nominations. G. Marchand was asked if he accepted the nomination and he did. Vote 5-0-0 U/A.*

**Agenda Item 3: Review/Approval of Minutes**

April 3, 2019 Minutes

★ *G. Marchand moved, second by G. Adams, to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2019 meeting.*

Discussion:

J. Kiszka noted that in the discussion of the new subcommittee, which was initially proposed as Electric Vehicle Subcommittee, there was no vote to approve the subcommittee or the name change to Alternative Vehicle Fuels Subcommittee.

It was noted that vote is not necessary to establish a subcommittee.

***There was no additional discussion on the motion. The vote was 4-0-1 (Moore abstaining).***

It was noted that member George Hamblen and alternate member Jake Kennedy, declined re-appointment to the Energy Committee. Maxann Dobson was re-appointed by the Board of Selectmen (BOS) and changed from an alternate member to a regular member appointment.

#### **Agenda Item 8: New Business – Appointment of Alternate Member – Peter Bealo**

D. Voss offered that P. Bealo had offered to become an alternate member of the Energy Committee if the EComm was inclined to recommend his appointment.

***★ J. Kiszka moved, second by G. Marchand, to recommend to the Board of Selectman that Peter Bealo be appointed as an alternate member of the Energy Committee. There was no discussion on the motion. The vote was 5-0-0 U/A.***

#### **Agenda Item 4: LED Streetlighting Project - Status**

T. Moore explained that the BOS had agreed to move forward with Affinity LED Lighting (Affinity) for the Town's LED Streetlight conversion project. They want to take a look at the contract before signing.

D. Voss noted that the draft contract should be sent to her any day. She also noted that Jake Kennedy was the chair of the LED Streetlight (LED) Subcommittee, since he was no longer a member of the EComm, he could sit on the LED subcommittee, but could not be the chair. It was noted that T. Moore was the only current member of the subcommittee that was also a member of the EComm.

D. Voss added that P. Bealo had offered that if needed he would be willing to chair the subcommittee if appointed as an alternate member of the EComm by the BOS. P. Bealo confirmed.

J. Kiszka offered that if P. Bealo is appointed by the BOS as an alternate member that he would automatically be the chair of the LED subcommittee.

M. Dobson noted that S. Cafiso was also a member of the subcommittee. It was noted that he is not a member of the EComm, just the LED subcommittee.

D. Voss offered that she would email Mr. Cafiso and see if he was interested in becoming an alternate member of the EComm.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Energy CIP**

T. Moore offered that not much has changed with the Energy Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) since the last update he presented to the EComm. He noted the copies of the Unitil rebate checks in the member folders and that he would add that to the CIP Spreadsheet.

F. Hart asked where the funds from the rebate checks had been deposited.

D. Voss replied that they were coded before she received the copy and the number is indicated on the copies. It wasn't known if that was the number for the Energy Capital Reserve Fund, where the rebate funds were supposed to be deposited. D. Voss to follow up.

## **Agenda Item 6: Subcommittee Reports**

### Energy Audit Subcommittee (EAS)

It was noted that the EAS has not met since their sit down with Building Maintenance Supervisor, Paul Lucia to prioritize projects identified in the audits that have been done over the winter. It was also noted that the priority for the first project would be converting lights in Town Hall to LED. The next meeting will be to prioritize the remaining project based on cost and return on investment (ROI) projections. It was noted that we have not received any word back from Unitol on potential incentive rebates that could help to prioritize the projects.

C. Vinton suggested that the subcommittee wait to prioritize the projects until they know about potential rebates.

T. Moore noted that there may be projects that might be good to do regardless of the rebate.

C. Vinton noted that he has solicited additional proposals for the insulation at the Library, but has not had a lot of success in getting the requested information.

### Buildings Energy Subcommittee (BES)

Nothing to report as they are still waiting for the next phase of construction at the Public Works Facility.

### Alternative Vehicle Fuels Subcommittee (AVFS)

Nothing to report at this meeting.

It was noted that former EComm member George Hamblen was the only other member of this subcommittee. It was unknown if he was interested in continuing or not. D. Voss will follow up.

The question was raised if subcommittees had to post their meetings and maintain minutes. It was noted that any committee of the Town, including their subcommittees were all subject to Right-To-Know laws and should be posting their meeting agendas and minutes. Going forward all agendas and approved minutes should be forwarded to D. Voss for posting.

## **Agenda Item 7: Old Business**

### Electricity Aggregation

T. Moore reminded that Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) was not an electricity aggregator and is looking for municipalities to join together for the purpose of purchasing electricity together.

It was noted that the Town has a third-party energy provider at this time (Taylor Energy) and there may be some difficulty with the contract with reference to an “evergreen clause” that would automatically renew the contract at the end of each expiration period.

There was discussion about the process to participate with the RPC electricity aggregation. It was noted that there would not be any geographic prohibitions to participate as the idea was to bundle as many municipalities and other agencies to obtain greater purchasing power. It was noted that the first step would be to research the third-party electric provider and what it would take to get out of that contract. D. Voss will research the Taylor Energy Contract and report back to the EComm.

M. Pearson gave an update on the Public Works Facility (PWF) construction, noting that Councilman Electric had been hired for the electrical work on the building. Mr. Pearson noted the following for the EComm:

- The interior lighting is LED to the extent possible
- The exterior lighting was high efficiency lighting
- The power to the building is 3-phase which is the most energy efficient and will handle the needs of the building now and is compatible with future solar
- The offices will be heating and cooled with split-systems which is the most versatile and energy efficient
- There will be back up electric heat so that important components of the building will not freeze in weather extremes
- Solar panels are intended for the proposed salt shed. The panels will provide electricity to the PWF and any additional power will be used by the Town Hall and then the Public Safety Complex (PSC), cutting electricity costs to those buildings.
- The same energy-efficient garage doors that were used at the PSC are being installed at the PWF
- There is 2” of insulating foam surrounding the foundation and more above the offices
- There will be a room on the mezzanine level that will be used for storage of scanned Town Hall documents that must be retained
- The mezzanine level will have balanced heat and air conditioning for the projection of the records, which will be stored in plastic bins
- Everything related to the project is being done with consideration of where there can be energy savings

J. Kiszka asked if there was a generator proposed for the PWF, noting that even with a back-up system there would be no heat to the building without power. He noted that the generator would need to be compatible with the 3-phase wiring.

M. Pearson replied that there were no current plans for a generator, but if a generator is to be purchased in the future it will be compatible.

M. Pearson noted that the conduit connecting the future solar panels on the proposed salt shed to the PWF were already installed. They were put in the ground when other site work was being done for additional cost saving and so that the site would not have to be disrupted again.

M. Pearson also spoke about a humidity problem that is being experienced with the PSC. He noted that they were having difficulties in dealing with Johnson Controls and the system, including the inability to obtain the password to the system. Issues with controlling the environment are mostly limited to the Police side of the building. He added that all efforts to work with Johnson Controls have resulted in expensive service calls so they are working on a solution to the entire process of controlling conditions at the PSC.

M. Pearson noted that there is discussion on whether or not to separate the salt shed and the solar panels as two (2) different Warrant Articles for next year. M. Dobson will be working with him on the solar project for the PWF.

### **Other Business**

G. Marchand questions all the piping that was being done on Garden Road and East Pine St.

M. Pearson explained that it was a Unitil project to expand natural gas service.

G. Marchand asked if they would be expanding the line to Westville Road.

M. Pearson responded that there were no plans to expand the line past the bridge at this time. He added that the open areas of the PWF would have radiant tube heaters which are much more efficient and economical for large open areas.

There were no additional matters before the Committee and the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Dee Voss, Administrative Assistant