

**ENFIELD ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES of February 23, 2010 APPROVED**

MISSION STATEMENT: To identify energy savings for the town and energy savings for the community

CURRENT GOAL: Our goal is a 10 % reduction in total energy consumption by the Town Government by the end of 2009 with incremental decreases thereafter, toward a three year goal of 25 % reduction in total consumption by the Town Government (relative to the 2007 baseline data) by the end of the 2011 fiscal year.

DATE/TIME: February 23, 2010 5:15 PM

LOCATION: Whitney Hall Conference Room, 23 Main, Enfield, New Hampshire

Committee members in attendance: Steve Goldsmith, Carol Lammert, Rich Lammert, Kim Quirk, Larry Battis and Bo Petersson.

Absent: Alisa Bonnette, Wendell Smith, Charles DePuy and Mike Mooney

Guest: Representative Mr. Chuck Townsend, NH House Grafton District 10, member of the House Science, Technology and Energy Committee

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Steve Goldsmith at 5:15 PM

II. Approval of Minutes from January 26, 2010.

Grammatical errors were noted. Minutes were approved with three corrections.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Old Business

- Review of grant applications for New Hampshire Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program

Members shared their views of the grant application process and the

probability of acceptance of the three proposed projects. They agreed that the process was intensive and time consuming. Members think the outdoor lighting modifications is the most likely to be accepted. With Steve Schneider's review and signature the applications were submitted on time. They are currently being reviewed by TRC Energy Services, the company that was hired to evaluate the merits of all of the projects. Notification of acceptance will occur in early March.

- Planning for Town Meeting Education/visibility materials/display and coverage

The Light Board will be displayed to compare incandescent lighting with primarily LEDs. Bo will transport the board to the school.

An example of the Idling Awareness signs obtained at no charge from the NH DES will be on display.

Posters will be prepared to highlight the work of the committee. Topics to be included are the EECBG and MEAP grant applications. Carol will prepare this overview poster.

The findings of the town's street lights will be presented. Larry will work on producing a large print of the map that shows the placement of the town's 229 street lights. The annual cost to the town for street lights will be included.

We discussed having one sheet of paper interested people could take home to include resources on renewable energy and energy efficient rebates and incentives and possibly the Button Up program. Kim agreed to look into but wasn't sure she would have time.

Data on the town government's energy consumption for 2007 and 2008 will be presented as a pie chart. Kim will provide the graphics. A sub committee will meet to discuss the data.

Earth Hour 2010, Saturday March 27, at 8:30 PM will be published at the Energy Committee website.

Members intend to set up the displays on the afternoon/evening of March 12. Two tables will be requested. Members will be present to finalize set up before 9 AM , discuss the work and findings of the Energy Committee during the meeting and assist with take down of the booth.

-Idling Awareness project

Signs from the NH DES were to be delivered in late January. Carol will check with Alisa on their delivery.

-Update of Committee goals to reflect time progression

The mission statement will be unchanged. The committee unanimously agreed that the goal should be read as follows, "Our current goal is to reduce the Town's total energy consumption by 25% (relative to the 2007 baseline data) by the end of the 2011 calendar year."

- Update on energy related projects around town
Bo reported that there is no news on the new library construction.

- Energy Consumption data analysis of 2009 data

Members previewed the data. Percentage of change by year were reviewed. Speculations on rationale for changes were shared. A sub committee, of the engineers serving on the committee, will meet to review the findings. It was suggested that managers of the town buildings be contacted for their views on why changes occurred. Interpretation of this data, possibly with documentation on reasons for the changing trends, will be shared by e-mail with committee members and made available for Town Meeting.

- DPW Lighting upgrade - National Grid application

No report.

It was noted that modifications of lighting of the bays is preferable. Funding may become possible if the New Hampshire Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program for solar power for the DPW is accepted.

V. New Business

- Discussion with Representative Mr. Chuck Townsend, NH House - Grafton District 10 member of the Science, Technology and Energy Committee

Steve presented an overview of the work of the Energy Committee (the three EECBGP applications - modifications in municipal lighting, Solar panels for the DPW, Heating and Cooling modifications using ground heat source for the Police Dept. Building, MEAP application, tracking of the town's energy consumption since 2007, street light documentation and assessment, outdoor lighting modifications, idling awareness project, educational presentations

during community events, provision of Kill - A - Watt meter and smart strip through the Library, etc.)

Chuck asked for input on how he might be able to help the committee. Steve reviewed the committee's street lighting project, the annual cost to the community of over \$25,000 for 227 lights and the cost of modifications of existing lighting. Steve referred to the ongoing endeavors in Vermont Energy Committees advocating for electrical suppliers to cooperate in using a tariff for installation of LED fixtures.

Regarding changes in the town's decorative lighting Chuck asked if the plans were Dark Sky compliant. He also asked if we had considered use of timers for outdoor lighting. These are items the legislature has addressed.

Chuck introduced House Bill HB 1353 - An Act relative to group net energy metering. This would allow a group to establish itself for energy sharing. Primarily shared solar power was discussed. Payment from the electrical supplier was discussed in depth. Paying taxes on the reimbursement was an issue that could be problematic.

He noted HB 1377 - An Act permitting utilities to establish loan programs for owners of residential and business property engaging in renewable energy and energy efficiency projects. This would provide a way to pay back the cost through savings.

Chuck mentioned HB 1554 - An Act allowing municipalities to establish energy efficiency and clean energy districts. He explained that a town could declare itself energy efficient. Loans could be made to the town's people.

HB 1471 - An Act requiring the govern's office of energy and planning and the board of home inspectors to develop relative to home energy efficiency for home buyers This would insure that people buying a residence would be made aware of energy efficiencies.

State Bill 327 - An Act relative to disclosure of service energy sources and environmental characteristics requires power companies to show types of energy sources and comparatives is due this year. The user could buy "Green power" at a cost.

While the legislators are forward thinking there is the question on how to enable and motivate the general public in energy conservation efforts. Chuck recommended accessing the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning web site at www.nh.gov/oep. In closing he offered that the committee could

contact him for additional information. He is a resident of Canaan. Phone - 603 - 632 - 7493. E-mail address - chuck.townsend@leg.state.nh.us. The committee members were appreciative of his attending the meeting and of his work.

VI. Other

Next meeting is scheduled for March 23 at 5:15 PM at the same location

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Lammert
Committee Secretary

2/25/2010; revised 2/27/2010, 4/27/2010