

ENFIELD ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES of October 27, 2009, 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: October 27, 2009 5:00 PM

LOCATION: Community Building, U. S, Rte. 4, Enfield, New Hampshire

I. Call to order 5:01 PM

This meeting is dedicated to the memory of Peter Solomon.

Committee members in attendance: Larry Battis, Alisa Bonnette, Charles DePuy, Steve Goldsmith, Carol Lammert, Rich Lammert, Bo Petersson, and Kim Quirk. Absent: Wendell Smith Citizens present: Kurt Gotthardt, Mike Moody (new Enfield resident)

II. Approval of minutes from September 22, 2009 meeting minutes

Minutes were approved with amendments of three typographical corrections.

III. Public Comment

None at this point in the meeting

IV. Old Business

- 2010 Energy Committee Budget Request

The committee reviewed the proposed budget items as follows:

Telephone/Communications	\$ 0
Meeting/hearing records	300.00 per year
Dues	0
Office supplies	75.00
Public information materials	75.00
Postage	0 (committee determined unnecessary)
Miscellaneous	0
New equipment	0
Professional development	225.00 (3 seminars @ \$75.00 each per year)
Mileage	320.00 (582 round trip mileage to Boston, Putney, or Burlington)

Special Projects -  
Idling Awareness            500.00 (signage at town facilities)  
   Light board materials        300.00 (purchase of LED's/revisions of board)

TOTAL    \$1,795.00

Kim moved that the 2010 budget request be submitted. The motion was seconded by Bo. It passed unanimously.

- Review of the presentation of the Energy Committee's Street lighting project at the Selectboard meeting of October 19 and the Street Light Project

Kim had offered a well organized presentation of the committee's work. The existing lights were identified on a map of the highways, streets, and roads within the town as those meeting and others not meeting the criteria for street lighting. Suggestions from the meeting included establishing a definition of a major intersection, obtaining a traffic tally of various roads and intersections, and obtaining input from the town's safety personnel. Carol volunteered to obtain information from police records for the past two years for vehicular accidents from dusk to dawn (allowing for seasonal variations) when lighting might have been a factor. There may be resistance to changes in lighting in that there are feelings/beliefs toward lighting as providing protection.

It was noted that a select board member did state that criteria for lighting needs to be considered when new street lights are requested. The Energy Committee is supportive. Kurt Gottardt shared some of his research on lighting. He had found that in 1983 - 1984 there were lights installed without apparent reason. These were on state owned roads. The rationale given, according to the PUC, was that it assisted with winter snow plowing. It was the practice that the lights were to be billed to the town gaining the most benefit from the lighting.

Discussion followed that National Grid needs to be pressured to relinquish total control over lights. There is an outdoor lighting tariff. Charlie reported that a higher fee is paid for street lighting. Meters are charged \$ 0.15 per KWH whereas street lights are charged \$0.25 per KWH. Vermont is working toward a LED street light tariff. New Hampshire's HB 585 does imply that street lights on timers (turned off when least traveled at night) are to be billed accordingly.

Kurt Gottardt commented that it would be good to reduce the cost of lighting by removing those lights that serve no purpose. He also noted that there are 37 streets without lights. Examples include the area of Eastman, Anderson and Jones Hill Road.

Regarding incidents of crime there is not a higher level in those areas that are without street lights.

Kurt suggested engaging a larger group of citizens. Presentation at Town Meeting may be appropriate.

Addition presentations were suggested. Kim was asked and agreed to offer a presentation to the town safety personnel to obtain input from Police Chief, David Crate, all three fire wards and Richard Martin of the ambulance service. Steve will assist with scheduling a presentation with safety personnel. It was suggested that Energy Committee members try to attend the presentation.

Presentation of the street lighting project to the Budget Committee is also appropriate. Kim agreed to also present the data to the Budget Committee.

Rich commented that the cost of removal needs to be presented. There is a \$50.00 charge for removal. Payback time needs to be calculated and considered. Steve noted that many of the lights not meeting the criteria are more than 20 years old.

There was mention of a previous point about the lighting criteria, if lighting of curves in the road should be specifically stated. In discussion the committee voiced the view that the criteria are adequate, as written. Use of reflectors at curves rather than lights was favored.

- Report of progress in Jaffrey, NH street lighting

Carol reported that Harry Young reported that of the original 217 street lights 71 were turned off, 16 identified to be removed were kept at intersections according to the Selectboard, 10 were kept according to the Fire Department, and wattage was reduced in all the remaining lights. The Jaffrey project is an example of a well organized and thorough plan. The above findings are points to take into consideration in the committee's work.

- Down town bridge lighting

Bo has written a letter that is awaiting Steve's review and it will then be sent onward.

-Veteran's Memorial Park lighting renovation /Shaker Bridge lighting

Bo had written to Ms. Richardson, Manager of State Energy Projects, requesting assistance with funding for lighting. For the present, the response has been slowed.

The presentation by Gary Hubbard of LEDesign on the proposal for Veteran's Memorial Park Lighting modifications at the Select board meeting of October 19 was mentioned. Committee member present thought his suggestions were well received. Citizens were interested in the post light Gary displayed to illuminate the flag rather than the sky. Steve Schneider said there may be funding available. Henry Cross, a supporter of the Memorial Park, was in favor of changes that would save the town money.

-Huse Park update

At the meeting of October 6, 2009 there were about 20 people present. The architects reviewed each plan and its features. Citizens ranked the plans. Concept C was the most favored. It has the least public parking and no Skate Park. Outdoor lighting was not a feature of any of the

concepts. Rich will e-mail Jim Taylor, Community Development Director, regarding Huse Park lighting plans, requesting that the Energy Committee be involved in lighting considerations. Points to mention are that the town's current lighting is not dark sky compliant (HB 585), energy efficiency is a major concern, pathway lighting may be best done with solar powered fixtures, and that current ball park lighting fixtures are high energy users.

-Public Utilities Commission of NH Municipal Energy Assistance Program application of 9/25

The application was approved for a \$500 energy audit. Laura Chestnut and two other individuals wish to meet with the Selectboard and town people. Whitney Hall is probably the best of the municipal buildings to be evaluated. The energy efficiency test would involve use of a blower and a thermal scan or, possibly a smoke test to identify areas of leakage. Charlie noted that the energy audits by the committee (primarily Charlie's work) helped to put Enfield ahead in the application process. Charlie is the liaison person.

-Ongoing Energy Inventory and Building Efficiency

Charlie reported that he will have data for 2009 tabulated in February. Information will be available for Town Meeting in March.

A previous point was presented; the question of inclusion of the Mascoma School District buildings in an energy audit. Mr. Jim Gurdig, President of the School Board, would be a person to contact. Charlie will contact the SAU office and will do some research. It was noted that Enfield makes up one fifth of the school district. Mr. George Caccavaro, Business Manager of the Enfield Village School, was suggested as another contact. Charlie did say that the program used for the energy assessment was originally written for schools.

- DPW Lighting Upgrade - National Grid application

No report

-Update on Energy related projects in town

Kim reported that a test of a hydro generator was scheduled.

## V. New Business

- Presentation to the Public at Town Meeting March 2010

The committee agreed that the Energy Committee does wish to have an informational booth to Update the citizens on the status of the energy audits as well as other endeavors.

- Enfield + Energy Exposition

Kim reported that recently a couple of area towns (Cornish and Plainfield) joined together to

present energy conservation education/ workshops to the public. It coincided with 350 Day. The committee will look into joining together with another town to provide a similar event to be held in Enfield in 2010.

One location to advertise events is the Roller Rink Sign along Rt. 4.

- Button Up NH

There is the opportunity of organizing a presentation of workshops to the public on energy savings this year. The committee members felt they did not have sufficient time to organize a presentation, advertise, etc. within the next couple of months.

- Alternative Energy Opportunities for town buildings

The committee discussed which of the town buildings might be appropriate for alternative energy methods. Direction and roof pitch were considered. The committee enthusiastically responded to Kim's offer to review the buildings. Charlie offered to assist. The committee thought that the DPW building might be the best opportunity for roof top solar panels. A feasibility study would be necessary the Community Building and the Huse Park Pavilion.

- LED display fixture

Gary Hubbard will have a LED light on display in Lebanon in the future. He is contact the committee on when and where it will be functional.

- Heritage Committee

The New Hampshire Preservation Committee has asked that Energy Committees work together on energy savings in older buildings.

VI. Other

Next meeting is November 24

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Lammert

11/4/2009; Revised 11/9, 11/24/'09, 11/25, 2009