

# Stratham Energy Commission Meeting Minutes

Date: June 12, 2013

Commission members present:

Michael Gorman

Matthew O'Keefe

James Schlough

Michael Welty

Absent- excused: John Dold

Also Present: Paul Deschaine, Stratham Town Manager

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:09 pm, Mike Welty presiding in the absence of Chairman Dold

This meeting was held at the Stratham Municipal Center for the purposes of conducting an energy audit of the facility.

Minutes of the May 8th meeting were reviewed and approved.

We began with the energy auditing process for the municipal center complex which consists of the town offices and the town library. Paul Deschaine provided an ariel view of the complex to itemize the various HVAC units located on the roof. The renovations of the library three years ago included five new combination heating(propane) and cooling units. Two years ago similar units were included in the renovation of the town offices. Three units for the town office area are heat pumps. With the renovation of the town hall, two oil-fired boilers were removed along with the underground oil tank.

Updating of lighting was discussed. Paul reported that most of the current lighting is from two to five years old. It was undetermined if those upgrades were supported with rebate funding from Unitil. Mike Welty noted that there is a five year moratorium on rebate support and any further improvements might require a delay until the moratorium expires. He noted also that it can be more cost effective to replace all lighting at one time. The current lighting is mostly T8 fluorescent. Mike said he will check with Unitil on the status of past rebate use for the municipal center.

Paul noted that in contrast with many other town buildings, about 60% of the municipal center has very heavy lighting usage. The town purchases fluorescent bulbs at a NH statewide contracted price.

Paul provided a tour of the building to review additional items. All thermostats are programmable. The "cafetorium" (nomenclature from the building's time as a school) had sprayed insulation added below the roof. New windows have been installed throughout the building. Paul noted a few locations where HVAC zoning was still based on previous use and is not ideal for cur-

rent needs. Some electric heat on programmable timers has been added to the restrooms. Domestic hot water is supplied by electric water heaters with tankless boosters at remote locations. The large distances between restrooms complicates efficient hot water supply.

After completing the energy audit, the meeting continued with other items on the agenda. Mike surveyed the members for vacation conflicts for the July 10 and August 14 meetings. No members cited conflicts at present. The option of having some presence for the Energy Commission at the town fair in July was discussed. It was agreed that the commission would have no meaningful information to present at this time. Mike Welty reported that the town supervisors approved the lighting upgrades at the town garage that had been recommended by the commission. This project includes Unitil rebate support.

Matt O'Keefe reported that the new energy use software being provided by the US Department of Energy apparently is not yet ready. He expects it will be before our July meeting and can report further developments then.

Matt also proposed that at our July meeting we begin summarizing the analysis work completed in preparation for town budget planning that starts in September.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm. The next meeting will be July 10th at the municipal center.