

# Stratham Energy Commission

## Meeting Minutes

Date: January 14, 2015

Commission members present:

John Dold

Michael Gorman

Matthew O'Keefe

James Schlough

Michael Welty

also present: Michael Ream

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by Chairman Dold. Minutes of the November 12th meeting, previously distributed, were approved. The December meeting had been cancelled.

The energy audit of the SAU16 Cooperative Middle School is in process. Keith McBrien of GDS Associates has submitted the scope-of-work and is supervising the UNH Manchester senior Stephen Lemieux in his execution of a Master Energy Plan for the facility. Adding information about this facility to a Portfolio Manager file is part of this process. Mike Welty questioned if we should add the facility to the Portfolio Manager account already in existence for the town's buildings or start a new account. Given that all the information is considered public record, it was decided to keep the information together in the one account. Matt O'Keefe will forward the account and password information to Keith for use by Stephen. Michael Gorman asked if the Coop information could be split out for independent use by SAU16 personnel. Matt said exporting a file from the account is easy to do. Mike Welty said he could imagine more energy audits being performed for the Exeter High School and other buildings managed by Dick Wendell of the SAU.

A walk-through of the Stratham Memorial School heating system occurred on January 9, 2015 and was attended by John Dold; Mike Welty; Keith McBrien; Robert McAlpine, head custodian at the school; and Trevor Paradis, the UNH Manchester student developing the proposal as a senior project. It was noted that the SMS school board has added a budget item of \$4900 to cover proposal costs if the project ever gets to the grant application level. Mike Welty said that a similar project, in which Keith was involved in Bedford NH, has only recently reached the grant process status. He commented that the project timeline can become very lengthy.

John Dold raised a concern that the Portfolio Manager data for the town buildings still seems not up to date, particularly for the SMS. Checking online during the meeting revealed that the town building information is current to mid-2014 and the SMS file is still missing some entries from 2013. Matt says he gets the town information directly from town administrator Paul Deschaine but that the connection to the SMS information is not as direct. Contact with Sandy McDonald of the SMS board will be made to streamline the process. Matt said he has the help needed to get the data entry performed.

It was announced that Jim Schlough, who is moving from the area, is resigning from the commission as of this March. Stratham resident Michael Ream, who was attending his second meeting of the commission, expressed an interest in serving on the commission and filled out an application to be submitted for approval by the supervisors.

John Dold provided a demonstration of replacing fluorescent lighting tubes with new LED substitutes. He explained that he has started a replacement program for town facilities in Boxford, MA, where he is Town Engineer. His electricians can replace two bulbs in a fixture in 15 minutes. The new bulbs are a direct replacement but do not need the ballast drives in the standard fluorescent fixtures. The LED bulbs have a “driver” built into each bulb to convert 120VAC to the required DC voltage. The US manufactured DLC-rated bulbs currently cost in the \$20-\$25 range and have a 50,000 hour usable life. The LEDs are 18watt per bulb versus 75 for the fluorescent bulbs. At current usage levels the payback time for the conversion is within 24months. National Grid, the power supplier used by Boxford, will rebate 25% of the cost of the bulbs.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm. The next scheduled meeting of the commission will be 7 pm, February 11, at the Stratham Municipal Center. Mike Welty will chair the meeting given the anticipated absence of John Dold.