

Swampscott Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 11th, 2014 at 7:00 pm
Swampscott Town Hall, Selectmen's Meeting Room

Members Attending: Neal Duffy, Tara Gallagher, Christine DePalma, Wayne Spritz

Non-Members Attending: Daniel Dragani, Glen Kessler, Gargi Cooper

Agenda

- 1) 7:00 to 7:10 - Approval of previous meeting minutes - Approved

- 2) 7:10 to 7:40 - Facilities Consolidation Task Force update – Wayne Spritz and Neal Duffy attended a meeting of the Facilities Consolidation Task Force which consists of two School Committee Members (Gargi Cooper, Suzanne Wright) two Selectment (Matt Strauss, John Callahan), Tom Younger (Town Administrator), Pam Angelakis (Superintendent of Schools), Gino Cresta (DPW Director), Daniel Dragani (Town Engineer), Garrett Baker (School Facilities Director), and Terry Johnson (School Maintenance). Also attending the meeting was Michael McClung, Chair of the Article 6/Regionalization Committee. Wayne Spritz and Neal Duffy reported that much of the meeting revolved around the goals of the Task Force and what sort of assistance we should be asking for from the Collins Center at UMass Boston. The Article 6/Regionalization Committee is sending a proposal to the Collins Center for a study on opportunities to share services with other communities within the region. There is a possibility that we could add School Facilities Management Consolidation to that study in the hopes that the Collins Center could provide some guidance in the most effective way to proceed. Much of the time was informing McClung of the needs of the schools and town and to help direct what would be asked for in the proposal. There was additional discussion as to what the focus and direction of the Task Force should be. Overall the meeting was productive in nature and it seemed people understood the importance of coming up with a solution in a timely manner. The Task Force is scheduled to meet again in early January where it will start to discuss the current model of facilities maintenance/services and alternatives to that model. Tara Gallagher suggested to the Task Force members present (Cooper, Duffy, Spritz) that an effective way for the Task Force to proceed would be to set up specific goals, benchmarks and a schedule. The Task Force members as well as other REC members agreed with this suggestion and will try to develop something before the next meeting.

- 3) 7:40 to 8:10 – Streetlight project update – The committee is planning applying for Streetlight replacement/upgrades for the next Green Communities round. Dan Dragani is thinking the proposal should include the replacing of only the high

wattage fixtures. These fixtures would provide the most savings and would fill the full amount of the grant. Dragani mentioned one drawback with LEDs that has been brought up before which is you have to replace the whole fixture if a bulb goes out. This would create a significant additional maintenance cost. This cost is not enough to outweigh the benefits of the conversion but is a consideration to be aware of. The contractors Dan and Pete Kane are talking to seem to be thoughtful about the design, making sure it is right. We are expected to save 30-40% of what we're using for the existing fixtures. Expected life of LED is 7-10 years. There is an 8-10 year warranty on the fixture but one-year warranty on parts and labor. This project has already been procured for us (and other communities) by MAPC.

4) 8:10 to 8:30 – Cogen update - Dan Dragani reported that the Cogen unit in the high school is still operating. We still are losing water and are not sure where it is going but we have a temporary water feed going to the unit so it does not shut down. Dragani also wants to install a Glycol feed tank to the unit for the same purpose. We have run the unit for over a month. Dan is continuing to work with Groom Energy and Johnson Controls to investigate the water loss and to resolve any other problems with the unit.

5) 8:30 to 9:00 - Any other business that comes before the committee

ESCO M&V report – We still have not signed the first year M&V report from Johnson Controls. Dan brought some of the issues in the report to JCI's attention and is waiting to hear back from them.

Lighting Controls at the high school – The way Dan understands this system is that there is a program that allows us to schedule when lights are turned on and off that we are currently not utilizing. Dan asked the School Superintendent for authority to get volunteers to figure out that system. Volunteers would pull the schedule out of the computer, then we can compare the lighting schedule to the cooling and heating schedule and see what we can shut down and when. Neal and Tom will volunteer to help with this.

Energy Tracking program – Chris Ratley's chart is basically showing that the building has a constant draw. Neal Duffy will invite Chris to our next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned – 8:52 PM

