

WILLINGTON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE Minutes

April 1, 2010 @ 7:30 pm at the Willington Town Office Building

1. **Call to order** 7:38 pm
2. **Present:** Ed, Christina, Ralph, Mark, Norm, Pam, Carol
Absent: Jim
3. **Approval of minutes** – 6 approved minutes from 3/11/10 as submitted; 1 abstain – absent last meeting.
4. **Subcommittee reports**
 - a. **Energy audits**
Copies of town office building energy audit by Climate Partners were recently sent to Christina, Ed and Norm.
Ed will send copies to remaining committee members.
From summary, Ed noted that window replacement was very low on list of remedies because giving priority to sealing leaks and insulating would be more energy and financially efficient. Ed read from summary
 1. *The building is over 300% leakier than it should be.*
 2. *Much of the building is uninsulated.*
 3. *None of the ductwork in the unconditioned crawl spaces is sealed or insulated. Heating and cooling losses due to duct leaks & lack of duct insulation can add up to 60% to heating and cooling costs.*
 - i. 6 photos accompanying report demonstrate above points.
 4. *None of the hydronic heating pipes...are insulated.*
 5. *The HVAC systems are near the end of their useful life. Existing oil fired heating boiler wastes 7-10% more energy. Existing cooling systems waste up to 50%.*
 6. *Considerable electric usage can be attributed to other draws besides heating & cooling.*
 7. *The town is still paying \$.21 per kWh for electricity. One portion of this can be lowered by 17% = savings of approximately \$5000/yr. Starion Energy was recommended in report and discussion followed about other possible sources.*
 - Auditor's recommendations (matched to above numbers)
 1. Air sealing w/ closed cell foam that would also act as insulation. Seal all infiltration with closed cell foam, polystyrene board, caulk, etc. for total cost \$23,519.
 2. Insulate with closed cell foam, etc. Cost \$18,734.
 3. Seal ducts - \$3,600.
 4. Insulate hydronic heating pipes \$1000.
 5. Upgrade oil boiler \$13,000.
 6. Upgrade air conditioning systems, \$7,300 per system.

Discussion: Total recommendations = \$67100 +.

Prioritize recommendation

Investigate if \$43,000 stimulus grant for window replacement can be re-applied to above remedies.

Christina says 10% can without re-application.

Christina will call grant administrator to determine process for re-applying and assign employee to re-apply.

If can't get grant C. proposes submitting to next year's CIP.

Town's electrical bills also discussed, including wasted time & energy- each bill goes to 2 different people and one person twice for approval and payment - from having multiple (16) accts: town office bldg., common rm, library, sr. ctr., public works., t. station, old t. hall, boy scout hall, WFD station 13, WFD station 213, WFD#1 cell tower, street lights, traffic signal, town green lights, sr. housing pump station, sr. housing fire pump.

Ralph displayed line and pie graphs that he created to depict percentages of energy use from each acct and peak energy uses. Plan to use these for teaching tools.

Christina will delegate task of researching other electricity suppliers and will check with CL&P rep to discuss consolidation of town's multiple accounts and rate reduction.

C. noted that superintendent of schools has consolidated accts & she will ask him for guidance, too.

Discussion: why is town paying for cell tower; questions about various fire dept accts, traffic light, green light, etc.

Discussion re: choosing a new electric supplier with preference to renewable E. provider.

Norm will find out 3-4 options.

Plan to pass info to town's people and other town services.

Christina will oversee introducing energy conservation culture to office building employees at staff meetings. Perhaps introduce contest: the biggest loser!

b. Clean Energy Options 20% by 2010

Three variations of document, Willington Board of Selectmen resolves to support 20% Clean Energy by 2010, discussed and revised to the satisfaction of all present.

Committee members plan to present document to selectmen at April 19th BOS meeting and recommend that town change electric supplier.

Several members agreed to represent energy advisory committee at Willington Day. Norm will bring his vinegar car.

c. Net metering issues/large scale projects

DPUC set up docket for net metering to discuss benefits for state. Hearing date to be announced.

d. Public relations

Content of web site and Horizons article praised.

5. No relevant Correspondence/emails
6. **Website:** Energy Audit results & photos will be posted on website.
7. **Public forums-** Carol will submit application.
8. No new discussion of ideas, new goals, etc.
9. Adjourned 9:12 pm. Next meeting scheduled for May 6 @ 7:30, town office building.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Springer, secretary
April 5, 2010