

ENERGY COMMITTEE
May 20, 2020
Mulvey Municipal Center
Regular Meeting Minutes

Members Present via ZOOM:

Chairman Chris Ehlert, Darlene Briggs, Bill Fredrickson, Bill Fish and Richard White

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ehlert at 4:33 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: April 29, 2020:

Approval of minutes was tabled until the next meeting of the Committee.

LED Street Light Update:

Bill Fish stated that he has emailed Clint and requested to wrap up the installation of LED's. The Town has not received any invoices yet. There are some stickers that need to be placed on certain equipment and the manual still needs to be completed. Siemans is looking to renew the maintenance contract with the Town. There are still some outstanding maintenance items which are items that have been called in by the residents of the Town, such as outages. Chairman Ehlert stated that he would like to see this matter wrapped up. DPW Foreman John Riggio will be contacting surrounding towns to see if there is an opportunity to regionalize for maintenance.

Street Light Ordinance:

Richard White stated that he looked at State Statutes and he also perused the PURA Regulations. He stated it looks like the Office of Consumer Council usually handles this type of thing. At this time, if someone would like to request the installation of a street light or the removal of a street light it is done through the Town Clerks Office, who then petitions the Board of Selectmen for a decision. Mr. White stated that he is not sure if an ordinance is needed and that things should stay as they are now. There was no update from Gary Gavigan.

Virtual Net-Metering Update:

Chairman Ehlert stated that he spoke with Chris Little and Chris Whitman about maybe looking into another Virtual Net Metering project. Chris Whitman stated that at this time, he doesn't feel that Westbrook would be a good fit because all current projects are looking for 1 megawatt or more from the customer. So we do not have enough at this time, we only have approximately 1/2 megawatt. Mr. Whitman stated that he will continue to look for smaller projects that we might be able to be a part of.

Richard White asked if we could re-look at the Westbrook Land Fill spot or any other ZREC projects. Chairman Ehlert stated he would talk to Mr. Whitman about this possibility.

Committee Member Updates:

- Chairman Ehlert stated that we have started receiving credits on our bills for approximately \$4,700.00. Mr. Ehlert stated that he has set up a meeting for Friday at 10:00 a.m. with Lesley Wysocki, Donna Castracane, Jill Brainerd, Chris Little and Chris Whitman to make sure all payments and credits are being monitored and tracked. We have decrease our usage 30-40% in the last year which is a huge difference.
- Bill Fish asked if the Town was reimbursing Town Hall employees for higher electricity expenses since they are currently working from home. Chairman Ehlert stated that, at this time, there is no policy regarding the matter.
- Bill Fredrickson asked what would be going on the old Auto Wrecker site, now that it was cleaned up. It was stated that the property is privately owned and not sure what they are doing at this time.

The next meeting will be June 17, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

Upon a motion by Darlene Briggs, seconded by Bill Fish, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen H. Kelemen, Secretary

As transcribed from a recording of the meeting.