

ENERGY COMMITTEE
July 21, 2021
Via Zoom
Regular Meeting Minutes

Members Present via ZOOM:

Chairman Chris Ehlert, Darlene Briggs (at 4:37), Bill Fredrickson, Gary Gavigan, Richard White and Lesley Wysocki.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ehlert at 4:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: June 16, 2021:

Upon a motion by Gary Gavigan, seconded by Bill Fredrickson, it was:

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the June 16, 2021, as corrected. (Richard White and Lesley Wysocki abstained from the vote).

Virtual Net-Metering Results to date:

Chairman Ehlert had sent all members updated information to all committee members prior to the meeting. He stated that for fiscal year 20/21 the savings for the schools was \$50,687.95, which is better than expected. The town has saved \$15,988.20 (this does not include information from June 2021), which is also better than expected.

Update Library Lighting Upgrade:

This project is still moving along and everyone is happy so far. The parking lot lighting is on order and once installed, it will improve the parking lot lighting and save money.

Committee Member Updates:

- Darlene Briggs reported that the towns that have gotten charging stations with grant money don't have the fund to maintain them. There was discussion of who should pay for vehicles to be charged: The Town of the person using the charger. Chairman Ehlert stated that he contacted CCM and was told that there are no municipal grants available at this time. There was discussion regarding the approval of a program through Eversource that will add cost to everyone's bill to pay for in increased use of charging stations. This matter really needs to be looked at more thoroughly and all the pros and cons must be taken into consideration.
- Street light update: The current savings is approximately \$40,000. The paperwork for the Eversource rebate was submitted a while back but we haven't received anything yet. Chairman Ehlert stated that he contacted Eversource regarding the matter and was told that the program was suspended due to Covid. He was further informed that the rebate will be in the amount of \$94,000 instead of the \$50,000 that was expected and that the check should be in hand soon.
- Chairman Ehlert stated that the Town should really pursue the supply and generation on the natural gas side. The Board of Education has done this and is getting a greater cost savings. The committee members agree and Chairman Ehlert will bring the idea to the Board of Selectmen and work with the Board of Education to move forward.
- Bill Fredrickson asked questions regarding the virtual net metering regarding the breakdown in energy savings versus cost savings. Chairman Ehlert will look into this and have an answer at the next meeting.
- Chairman Ehlert stated that Jill Brainerd is working on the lighting upgrade at the Town Hall, which is long overdue. Willdan is out of business so she is trying to find another vendor.

- We are still waiting for the Architect that was hired to submit a proposal for the Mulvey roof project. Lesley Wysocki asked if anyone has contacted the Fire Marshal in regards to this project for his input regarding what type of rood material would be the best to use. Chairman Ehlert will contact Jill Brainerd regarding this matter.

Approval of Bills:

Upon a motion by Lesley Wysocki, seconded by Richard White, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve payment of \$48.06 to Katie Kelemen for Secretarial duties.

Reminder: There will no meeting in August. The next Regular Meeting will be Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 4:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

Upon a motion by Richard White, seconded by Lesley Wysocki, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen H. Kelemen, Secretary

As transcribed from a recording of the meeting.