

ENERGY COMMITTEE
October 17, 2018
Mulvey Municipal Center
Regular Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Chairperson Chris Ehlert (arrived at 5:07 p.m.), Bill Fish, Darlene Briggs, Bill Fredrickson, Richard White, Jill Brainerd and Gary Gavigan.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Bill Fish at 5:00 p.m.

LED Streetlight Update – Possible vote on contract:

Bill Fish stated that most of the information regarding R2's and R3's have been inputted into the spreadsheet for the installation of the new LED's. Bill Fredrickson and Darlene Briggs are reviewing certain areas and as soon as they finalize the information, the order can be placed with Siemens. Once the order is placed, it will be 6 weeks for the lights to come in before they can start installing them. Hopefully they will start being installed by the middle of December. The installation should take approximately 2 to 3 weeks pending weather issues.

There Have been another 6 light failures reported.

Upon a motion by Darlene Briggs, seconded by Gary Gavigan, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve the repair of the six additional lights and to have a standing approval to make repairs once per month until the final new lights are installed and DPW takes over the maintenance of the lights.

Bill Fish stated that he talked to American Electric Lighting and he was told that the retrofit kits for the decorative lights have a small fan in them. When the fan fails, the LED will fail and there is no surge suppression in the retrofit kits. The kits would not have the same 5 year warranty. Mr. Fish needs to verify this information and discuss the matter with Siemens. Once verified, the committee has 3 alternatives:

1. Get an additional approved to purchase new LED's designed for the decorative lamps instead of purchasing the retrofit kits.
2. Leave them as they are until they fail (we won't get any savings).
3. Replace some of them and have a mixture.

There was discussion and a decision to stay with what we have now until we have all the information needed to make a decision. There was also discussion regarding where the funds would come from if it was decided to purchase new instead of retrofit kits.

There is one deletion of a cobra LED recommended at the end of Middle Beach. The light was never replaced after one of the big storms and the occupants in the area are happy with it not being replaced.

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

VOTED: Unanimously to not replace the broken Cobra LED at the end of Middle Beach.

There was discussion of having the appropriate information available on the Town Web Site so when a resident calls in a broken light or fixture, they know what information they will need to provide to DPW to properly identify the light fixture.

Municipal Building Energy Audit Results – Committee Discussion:

Upon a motion by Jill Brainerd, seconded by Darlene Briggs, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to table this item until the next meeting.

Upon a motion by Richard White, seconded by Bill Fish, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to add “Approval of 2019 Meeting Schedule” to the agenda after “Approval of Bills”.

ZREC Update:

We should have information by the end of the year from DEEP whether the High School and Daisy will be awarded.

Microgrid RFP Update – Chris Ehlert:

Chairman Ehlert stated that he has not seen the questions and answers yet. He further stated that Attorney Bruce McDermott is looking for the power purchase agreement which we don't have. Forefront and USA Microgrid were supposed to coordinate to do an analysis of how much array the school roof can handle. It's a little disconcerting that USA Microgrid does not have this information. How much further do we want to go with this project if there's another round of questions from DEEP. There is a lot of technical and viability about the projects. We should have answers before the end of the year as to whether the High School and Daisy are approved. Forefront has made it clear that they will not move forward with the Middle School if the other 2 schools are approved. There was discussion that the committee members feel that Forefront's bids and commitment were a misrepresentation. After discussion the committee feels we should stay the course and see what happens with the Microgrid. We should wait for an updated response from DEEP.

Virtual Net Metering Community Solar Update:

We are still waiting for Eversource to provide us with the acceptance approval for 1 megawatt of virtual metering capacity.

Sub-Committee to Update Municipal Energy Plan:

None.

Approval of Bills:

Upon a motion by Bill Fish, seconded by Jill Brainerd, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve payment of \$9,413.00 to Siemens Mobility, Inc. for the street light audit.

Upon a motion by Darlene Briggs, seconded by Jill Brainerd, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to approve payment of \$79.45 and \$68.10 to Kathleen Kelemen for Secretarial duties.

Approval of 2019 Meeting Schedule:

Upon a motion by Darlene Briggs, seconded by Richard White, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to hold meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month for 2019 and January of 2020. All meetings will be held at 4:00 p.m. in the South Conference Room.

Approval of Minutes:

Regular Meeting – September 19, 2018:

Upon a motion by Darlene Briggs, seconded by Jill Brainerd, it was:

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the September 19, 2018 Regular Meeting, as amended (Richard White abstained from the vote).

Update of Municipal Committee Member Updates:

None.

Adjournment:

Upon a motion by Darlene Briggs, seconded by Richard White, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to adjourn at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen H. Kelemen

As transcribed by a tape of the meeting