

ENERGY COMMITTEE
June 20, 2018
Mulvey Municipal Center
Regular Meeting Corrected Minutes

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Chris Ehlert at 5:00 pm.

Members Present:

Chairperson Chris Ehlert, Bill Fish, Bill Fredrickson, Darlene Briggs, Richard White, Gary Gavigan and Jill Brainerd (at 5:12 p.m.).

LED Streetlight Update – Bill Fish:

Bill Fish stated that at the last meeting of the Board of Selectmen he requested an appropriation for repair to existing lights. Because the transition is taking longer than we planned, the faulty lights should be repaired. At this time, there are 9 lights out of service. The cost of each light should be \$10 or \$25 for photocells and HPS bulbs or approximately \$65 to \$70 if a fixture needs replacing, so lesser repairs would cost approximately \$300 at the most for this fiscal year. The appropriation has not been approved by the Board of Finance. At this time, we will prioritize the lights that have the biggest safety issues and if funds remain available, other lights will be fixed. The top priority is Antonie Road, second is Middle Beach by the dead end and third is on Waldron Drive. Hopefully we can have Siemens repair the lights when they come to install the pilots, which will save us money. At this time DPW Administrative Assistant Colleen Topitzer is keeping track of all requests received.

Upon a motion by Richard White, seconded by Gary Gavigan, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to repair at least 3 street lights with the money appropriated by the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance for the remainder of the fiscal year.

The pilots should be installed by the end of the month. The Survey Monkey will be on the town web site for 30 days. Once a decision is made, an order will be placed with Siemens and we will enter into contract with them. It will take approximately 4 to 6 weeks and should be completed by sometime in September.

Richard White stated that the press release in the Westbrook Events submitted by Bill Fish was great. There was discussion of having an information session. It will be held sometime in July.

Chairman Ehlert thanked Bill Fish for his phenomenal work on this project.

Municipal Building Energy Audit Results – Committee Discussion:

Chairman Ehlert stated that he has called Lester Frost weekly. The packets are still at Eversource for them to decide what we would qualify for. We need to see the results before making any decisions. We should deal with one building at a time. Darlene Briggs asked if the audits done by this committee would benefit the Maintenance Assessment that the Board of Selectmen appropriated \$30,000 to have done. Facilities Coordinator Jill Brainerd explained that the Maintenance Assessment is for the purpose of figuring the age/condition of all town buildings as a whole and come up with a future maintenance plan that can be followed. The Town wants a plan for the future for each town building. All the information will be used to help with the annual capital improvement plans to make sure the appropriate funds will be available. Chairman Ehlert stated that he feels we are duplicating efforts and spending additional tax payer's money to do it. If the town is appropriating \$30,000, they should just hire a facilities manager. The town is in a capital crisis right now and they have pushed the Mulvey Municipal Center roof replacement out 5 years. Therefore, the Energy Committee cannot move forward with their plan of installing solar panels on the roof. A facilities manager would more than pay for itself. Maybe a few members of this Committee should attend the next BOS meeting and offer to work with whomever will be overseeing the project. Maybe a position could be created that would be a Planner, Engineer and Facilities Manager all in one.

ZREC Update – Chris Ehlert:

Chairman Ehlert stated that Chris Whittman of Solomon stated that the next auction will be on or around August 7th. We will submit all town buildings with the exception of Town Hall. We have been pushing to get on board early with the virtual metering. This will be the landfill back into play. We will have to submit new documents because the previous ones expire on 6/30/18.

Microgrid RFP Update – Chris Ehlert:

Chairman Ehlert stated that there has been no answer yet and at some point the Committee is going to have to decide where to go from here.

Notification of Violation DEEP – Underground oil tanks – Update:

Chairman Ehlert stated that the Historical Society, Fire House and Riggio Building have all been completed. The High School and Daisy Ingraham are in the works and being handled by the School Building Committee. At this time, we are fine with DEEP and we have no risks for any fines at this time because the town is being pro-active.

Sub-Committee to Update Municipal Energy Plan:

No updates at this time.

Approval of Bills:

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

VOTED: Unanimously to approve payment of \$110.76 and \$11.08 to Kathleen Kelemen for May and early June Secretarial duties.

Approval of Minutes:

April 18, 2018:

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

VOTED: Unanimously to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2018 Regular Meeting, as amended.

The approval of minutes was tabled until the next meeting.

May 16, 2018:

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

VOTED: To approve the minutes of the May 16, 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 Bill Fish, it was:

VOTED: Unanimously to adjourn at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen H. Kelemen

NOTE: All changes indicated in bold, underlined and italicized print.