

ENERGY COMMITTEE
August 15, 2018
Mulvey Municipal Center
Regular Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Chairperson Chris Ehlert, Bill Fish, Darlene Briggs, Richard White, Bill Fish and Gary Gavigan.

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Chris Ehlert at 5:01 pm.

LED Streetlight Update – Bill Fish:

- Bill Fish stated that all the sample lighting has been installed. The survey is up and running on the town website. The beach associations have been notified. There will be an article in the Harbor News and Channel 19 will be running the information as well. The information has also been posted on “People of Westbrook” on social media. At this time there has only been 7 replies to the survey.
- Mr. Fish distributed paperwork highlighting the different options from Siemens. The choice for outdoor photometric is R2 or R3. He recommends R2 because it is wider and narrower so there is less light going across the road. This would be good for residential areas. The R3 would be more back light on the sidewalks. Both Madison and Old Saybrook went with R2. Once the Committee makes a decision, Mr. Fish will move forward to the Board of Selectmen for their approval at the August 23, 2018 Board of Selectmen Meeting. Once the contract is signed, it will take approximately 6 weeks for the work to start. He expects a completion date of mid to late October.

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

VOTED: Unanimously to approve the list of LED cobra fixtures presented to the Committee for purchase, with the understanding that since we do not have final pricing from Siemens on these changes from their proposal in response to the RFP, that the final order submitted, including the metal decoratives and floodlight replacements, will remain under the \$206,620 total previously approved by the BOS, BOF and Town Vote. This amount does not include the \$5,000 received from the Bright Idea Grant, which was previously approved to purchase spare replacement fixtures in the event of damage to those to be installed.

Municipal Building Energy Audit Results – Committee Discussion:

This project is moving very slowly and there are no updates at this time.

ZREC Update – Chris Ehlert:

Chairman Ehlert stated that the next auction will be September 7, 2018. All 3 schools and the land fill will be entered into the auction.

Microgrid RFP Update – Chris Ehlert:

We are still waiting for the State’s approval.

Sub-Committee to Update Municipal Energy Plan:

Chairman Ehlert stated that Senate Bill #9 has been contested and on Friday, PURA ruled and agreed with Solomon and so did Eversource and United Illuminating that there is extra available. Therefore, because of the extra availability, it will be opening up for municipalities. Chris Whitman of Solomon has put together an application which will include all 3 schools, the Library and Town Hall. The application will be submitted to Eversource today. In the future “community solar” is another possibility for the Town. Once we are approved for ZREC, Microgrid and Vertical Net Metering, the Committee will have to make a decision of which one to go with.

Approval of Bills:

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

VOTED: Unanimously to approve payment of \$79.85 and \$11.35 to Kathleen Kelemen for July Secretarial duties.

Approval of Minutes: June 20, 2018:

Tabled.

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 5:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathleen H. Kelemen