

BOLTON ENERGY COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
7:00 PM, Tuesday, January 26, 2016
Notch Municipal Center

Minutes & Motions

Members Present: Chairman John Muro, Mike Morris, John Stewart, William Herbert, Rodney Fournier

Members Excused: Douglas Fisher

Staff Present: Representatives from Clean Energy Communities (Eversource) Alison Jackman and Mike Manzi, and Sarah Benitez, Recording Secretary

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman John Muro called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** None.
3. **Introductions:** The Committee members introduced themselves.
4. **Appointment of the Vice Chairman:** The Chairman nominated William Herbert. R. Fournier moved to appoint W. Herbert as Vice Chair, seconded by J. Stewart. Vote: 5:0:0.
5. **Eversource Presentation:** The Committee heard from Alison Jackman and Michael Manzi, representatives of Eversource's Clean Energy Communities program. Bolton has made a non-binding pledge that the town will reduce 20% of its energy use and transfer 20% of its energy use to alternative methods by 2017. As part of the program, Bolton receives incentive points for meeting certain energy efficient goals, which accumulate towards a grant. The town can choose which point in time it wishes to use for its baseline. Progress will be measured from that point by benchmarking. Incentives are tracked as far back as 2010.

At this point, Bolton qualifies for a \$5000 grant, but now has to start monitoring energy use in town buildings. M. Manzi will work with the town to collect data to build a town energy usage profile and benchmark its progress. There is a Municipal Technical Assistance program which offers a free (no cost, no obligation) audit of buildings for towns without the necessary staffing availability.

A. Jackman will work with the town on outreach programs to promote more participation in clean energy usage, which would earn Bolton more points. She said a 6-12 month campaign typically results in a 5% increase in participation. The Committee chose to focus on residential engagement and began discussion of vendor criteria, such as locality and willingness to commit to building reviews for residents without residents having to commit to a plan. A. Jackman will send a list of recommended criteria categories to J. Muro, who will distribute them to the Committee. The Chair will also discuss the program further with First Selectman R. Morra and Town Administrator J. Stille.

- 6. Discussion: Opportunities, Goals, Challenges:** The Chair noted the complexities communicated in the January 25, 2016 Freedom of Information Act presentation. The Committee will look into LED streetlights. They also want to figure out a way to track and benchmark energy usage for multi-unit housing, where energy consumption is overseen by a landlord. The Committee briefly discussed potential outreach program vendors.
- 7. Adjournment:** M. Morris moved to adjourn. J. Stewart seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Benitez

Please see minutes of subsequent meetings for approval of these minutes and any corrections hereto.