

BOLTON ENERGY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 PM, Wednesday, December 6, 2017
Notch Road Municipal Center, Room 10

Minutes

Members Present: Chairman Richard Dziadul, Vice-Chairman William Hebert, Brian Blass and John Stewart

Members Absent: Rodney Fournier, Andrew Macomber and Jim Adams

Others Present: Recording Secretary Linda McDonald

1. Call to Order: Chairman R. Dziadul called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
2. Public Comment: No public comment.
3. Approval of the September 21, 2017 meeting minutes:

The September 21, 2017 meeting minutes were amended as follows: item 5a (ii) was incorporated into item 5a (i).

R. Dziadul MOVED to approve the September 21, 2017 meeting minutes as amended. B. Blass SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:1 with W. Hebert abstaining.

4. Correspondence

a. Letter from the Board of Selectmen on the appointment of Andrew Macomber to the Energy Committee: R. Dziadul reported that A. Macomber was appointed to the Energy Committee as of October 10, 2017 by the Board of Selectmen. A. Macomber will be officially welcomed at the next meeting.

b. Letter from the Town Clerk Elizabeth Waters that the committee must file under Chapter 11.2 "Schedule of Meetings" for scheduled meetings in 2018: The schedule has been emailed to the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk. J. Stewart will deliver a paper copy of the schedule to the Town Clerk.

5. Ongoing Business

a. LEED by Example Program- Search for a new contact: R. Dziadul reported no response from the contact recommended to him. He said he would look into what is going on with the program.

b. Using Photovoltaics to reduce the cost of Town electric bills: R. Dziadul said there is the possibility of using virtual net metering but more research is needed. He explained the Town does not want to put solar on any of the historical municipal buildings, but net metering could run from the Notch Road Municipal Center transformer to these other buildings. The option of running upgraded lines from the Transfer Station would not be cost effective. Discussion followed. R. Dziadul described the Emergency Operations Center in Killingworth that uses heat pumps, which are what he would like to see utilized in Bolton.

c. Discussion of an Energy Vision for the Town of Bolton: R. Dziadul recommended focusing the Committee's vision on energy efficiency (replacing Town exterior and interior lighting with LED) and the technology of heat pumps and photovoltaics. Discussion followed on the cons of using gas which include global warming, potential increase in cost, and gas doesn't cool buildings in summer. B. Blass asked about the possibility of the Energy Committee working with the EDC in developing an energy vision for the Town.

d. Special Meeting to arrive at an Energy Vision for the Town of Bolton: Consensus of the Board was to schedule a special meeting on January 3, 2018 at 7:00 pm. in Room 10 of the Notch Road Municipal Building to finalize an Energy Vision for the Town of Bolton and to schedule a meeting with the BOS to re-introduce the committee and to schedule to meet with a BOS subcommittee to discuss energy issues.

e. Scheduling a Special Meeting with the new Board of Selectmen and Re-introduce the Energy Committee and meet with a BOS subcommittee to discuss energy issues before going before the board: The board will contact Town Administrative Officer Joyce Stille to set up a meeting with the BOS.

6. New Business:

a. Discussion on Education Outreach to High School Students: Possible presentation topics discussed by the Committee included climate change issues and energy efficiency.

b. Consider and act upon follow-up targeted CVC presentations like the one in August 2017: Possible presentation topics discussed by the Committee included heat pumps and residential insulation types and subsequent savings.

c. Impact of the State budget deal on future plans of the Town of Bolton to make energy improvements on Town buildings: R. Dziadul reported he testified before DEEP in opposition of the State plan to limit net metering to 20 megawatts from the current 100 megawatt limit. He explained that 2018 will be the last year to apply for the Zero Renewable Energy Credit (ZREC). A plan from the Town would have to be filed by April 2018 in order to take advantage of ZREC.

R. Dziadul also said the Green Bank budget of 30 million dollars was reduced to 14 million dollars and the Energy Efficiency Fund had \$175 million dollars removed from its budget and put into the General Fund in the State budget recently passed, which would result in approximately 6,000 energy efficiency jobs lost. A lawsuit has been filed to stop the reduction in those budgets. R. Dziadul said if these budget reductions go through, the purpose/vision of the Energy Committee would drastically change.

7. Adjournment: J. Stewart MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. R. Dziadul SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2018.

Respectfully submitted by Linda H. McDonald

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