

BOLTON ENERGY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
7:00 PM, Thursday, September 21, 2017
Notch Road Municipal Center, Room 10

Minutes

Members Present: Chairman Richard Dziadul, Rodney Fournier, Brian Blass and John Stewart

Members Absent: Vice-Chairman William Hebert, Andrew Macomber and Jim Adams

Others Present: First Selectman Robert Morra (arrived 7:33 p.m.) and 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 July 19, 2017 meeting minutes:

Item 5: Amend the following sentence to read: “The Town has contracted for conversion from ~~gas to oil~~ **oil to gas** use in some buildings”.

R. Fournier MOVED to approve the July 19, 2017 meeting minutes as amended. R. Dziadul SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 3:0:1 with B. Blass abstaining.

4. Correspondence: R. Dziadul reported he spoke with Administrative Officer Joyce Stille about the condition of the Notch Municipal Building.
5. Ongoing Business

a. Recap of Recent Efforts

i. Outreach to Bolton Homeowners – August CVC Program: Discussion followed on the new technology of heat pumps. R. Dziadul said many compliments were received about the August CVC program presentation. The next showing of the CVC program is scheduled for Friday, September 22, 2017 at noon. The program can also be viewed on “on demand” television. Discussion followed on modifying the program to be shown in certain grades at the schools.

ii. “Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy for Homeowners”: Discussion followed on energy usage savings for senior population. This population is hit hard in their household utility budget percentage.

b. Discussion on Notch Road Municipal Building (NRMB) and the Energy Future of the Building:

First Selectman Robert Morra discussed the energy saving activities being investigated for Town buildings. He said an engineer is looking into the structural aspects of the NRMB which includes building a framed peak roof with solar panels. Cost is also a factor when considering energy updates. R. Morra said the infrastructure at the NRMB is in place but the building would require extensive updating and remediation. R. Dziadul explained the possible uses of solar panel

“carports” in the parking lot at the NRMB and using the power for the electrical needs of the building. Discussion followed.

R, Dziadul informed R. Morra that the committee is looking into savings by using solar to pay down the cost for general electrical usage for Town buildings, provide hot water and to heat them. He said a goal would be to provide enough electricity to run a heat pump to heat and cool the buildings. R. Morra said his opinion is that the use of gas would be a better solution than drawing off the power grid with the use of solar. Discussion followed on areas of serious energy cost cutting through the elimination of meter connection fees on low electrical use properties. B. Blass asked R. Morra if there has been any consideration by the Town during the gas conversion project to use combined cycle systems that make electricity and heat. Discussion followed on ways to improve the gas energy usage for the Town.

R. Morra went over the timetable for the conversion of the NRMB. (R. Morra left the meeting at 8:10 pm).

c. Progress in Researching the LEED by Example Program: R. Dziadul reported he has trouble connecting with his contact at this program. More effort to reach this contact will be necessary once the Town proceeds with the conversion of the NRMB.

d. Discussion on an Energy Vision for the Town of Bolton: R. Dziadul said his energy vision for the Town sees using solar to pay down electric bills. Further discussion was tabled to a future meeting.

e. Scheduling a Special Meeting to Finish Creating an Energy Vision: Discussion on this agenda item was tabled to a future meeting.

f. Scheduling a Meeting with the Board of Selectmen and Re-introduction of the Energy Committee: Discussion on this agenda item was tabled to a future meeting. R. Morra said the next step for the committee would be to meet with members of a BOS sub-committee to discuss energy issues before going to the full board.

g. Continuing Efforts to Learn More about the LEED by Example Program: This item was discussed under agenda item 5c.

6. Discussion of New Business: Approving the 2018 meeting schedule: R. Fournier MOVED to approve the following 2018 Energy Committee Meeting Dates:

February 7, 2018, May 9, 2018, August 8, 2018, November 14, 2018. Meetings will be held at the Notch Road Municipal Center at 7:00 p.m. J. Stewart SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED 4:0:0.

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

The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 6, 2017.

Respectfully submitted by Linda H. McDonald

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