

Center Harbor Energy Committee - Minutes of Meeting – 7 June 2018

Attendees: Bernie Volz, Chris Williams and Carol Sullivan. Annette Nichols and Selectman Richard Drenkahn were not able to attend with notice.

Bernie called the meeting to order about 7:05 p.m.

On-going Business:

Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the meeting of May 3rd were approved.

Button Up Workshop Wrap-up. Carol reported that attendance at the May 24th Button-Up workshop was low. According to the sign-in sheet, five people attended. One of the five was Walter Johnson, Town of Moultonborough Administrator. Several people attended from Moultonborough and one from Meredith. Despite low attendance, interest in the presentation was high and people stayed after the presentation to talk to Andy Duncan, Phil LaMoreaux (NHEC) and Ted Stiles (Yankee Thermal Imaging). Low attendance might have been partly due to the timing (the day before the Memorial Day weekend) and the fact that the weather was great. The committee agreed that it is probably better to hold these workshops between September and early Winter, we would recommend that NHSaves be open to considering other times of year as well. Bernie commented that the presentation was long - 1.5 hours and that perhaps the very helpful information could be divided into several smaller segments that could be viewed in YouTube format on the NHSaves website.

Town Highway Garage Lighting Upgrade Project. In response to the RFP, we received only one proposal from TNT Electrical in Laconia. TNT quoted \$8,262.00 for the Base Retrofit as outlined in the RFP. This amount was about twice as much as the \$4,700 estimated by Joseph Lajewski of NHEC. TNT also proposed three other options. Option #1 was a response to our RFP request to lower eight fixtures in the back storage area to just above garage door height. TNT's cost for this option was \$1,100.00. Option #2 included Option #1 as well as a proposal to relocate and replace some lamps to allow light while the door is open and more even lighting around all doors. The proposed price of this option was \$4,636.00. (This option would be in addition to the Base Retrofit discussed above.) Option #3 was an alternative to the Base Retrofit. The lamps for the bathroom, outside and sand/salt shed remained the same as indicated in the Base Retrofit part of the proposal, but involved using different lamps in all the other areas. This option did not include lowering fixtures in the back (Option #1). TNT's proposed cost for Option #3 is \$10,422.00. The committee discussed how difficult it has been to find contractors to do work. Chris thought it might be better to rebid the project in November or December and have the work begin in March. The Committee decided that before making any recommendations to the Select Board, the next step was to ask Joseph whether Center Harbor could get a rebate for any of these options from NHEC. **Bernie will contact Joseph.**

Benchmarking with Portfolio Manager/Recording Town Energy Usage. The committee discussed participating in a benchmarking effort sponsored by the EPA to compare energy expenditures and savings in our town with other towns. Andy Duncan told us about this and referred our committee to Linda Darveau from the US EPA Region 1 (including New Hampshire). Carol followed up with Linda who sent more information about the type of data that was being gathered, how it was being entered in the database, and an example of a preliminary report on the libraries in some NH towns. Bernie commented that he has not yet been able to go to the Town Office Building to copy energy bills that we can begin to use in our own record of town energy use. He thought that we should start by collecting our data and look into something like a

Google Sheet to enter the data. The NH Town Libraries in the EPA Benchmarking report were very diverse, as were the towns themselves. We might get more from looking at our own data first before going to the effort of providing our information to this project. Carol will follow up with Robin about obtaining access to and copying the data. Carol will ask Robin to explain what Town Property areas the various accounts with NHEC and other energy providers include.

New Business: None.

Other Business:

PAREI Solar Shares Inaugural Project

Carol reported that PAREI recently announced they have completed the design for the inaugural Solar Shares array behind Frosty Scoops Ice Cream Stand in Plymouth owned by the Common Man. The solar electricity produced at the site will be purchased by the NH Electric Cooperative through a Power Purchase Agreement. The value of the solar energy will be credited as "Solar Shares" to the electric bills of 10 low income families who choose to participate in the program due to their interest in energy conservation, solar energy and sharing their interest and learnings with others. Since much support has been received from the community and state Parei is already planning on building a second community solar PV array in Warren, NH possibly as soon as the end of this year.

This topic generated a brief discussion about Center Harbor doing a solar array. Possible areas include an area around the tennis courts on Dane Rd or the old Center Harbor land fill on Kaiser Rd. Carol mentioned that we had talked about collaborating with another town if we did a solar array. She said that when she talked to Walter Johnson of Moultonborough about his town's interest in energy matters, he said that there was interest, but they do not have an energy committee. He would be interested in exploring staying in touch with CHEC to consider how our towns might cooperate on future energy related projects. It was mentioned that perhaps we might have quarterly meetings that he could attend and that would cover topics of mutual interest. Carol will follow up with Walter to discuss this idea further.

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 12th, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Sullivan, June 9th, 2018.

Note: Items in red are to flag actions needed.