

Center Harbor Energy Committee Minutes of Meeting – 4 October 2018

Attendees: Annette Nichols, Bernie Volz, Chris Williams, Carol Sullivan and Selectman Richard Drenkahn.

Annette called the meeting to order about 7:04 p.m.

On-going Business:

Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the meeting of July 12th were approved.

Town Highway Garage Lighting Upgrade Project.

The Energy Committee reviewed our July meeting decision to put off sending out the RFP for the Garage Lighting Upgrade until later this year or January of 2019. Under these scenarios work on the lighting would begin in March 2019. Chris mentioned that the shortage of contractors available to bid on projects is still on-going. Annette asked if anyone knew what supply of light bulbs the Garage has for changing out broken bulbs as they occur. Bernie stated that there was no supply but bulbs were bought as needed. Annette also mentioned the possibility (previously discussed) of exchanging LED bulbs that can be used in existing ballasts for the fluorescent tubes when they burn out) to lower lighting costs. **Carol will call Joe Lajewski (NHEC) to find out what he knows about these types of bulbs and whether NHEC would approve of and give rebates for this type of fluorescent bulb replacement. The committee will discuss this project further at the November meeting.**

Benchmarking with Portfolio Manager/Recording Town Energy Usage.

After the July meeting Bernie started entering electricity usage from NHEC invoices into a Google spreadsheet with charts and shared his work with the team for input. The committee agreed that this work should continue in the form of a separate sheet for each account (e.g., Town Offices, Library, Garage, etc.) but that all the sheets be done in one book. The spreadsheet format Bernie created can allow space for information about exact reporting period, weather conditions, and other factors that might affect electricity usage during specific time periods, etc. Since Carol had also gathered Dead River invoices for the Town's propane usage, we can also start a sheet to track this. **Bernie will continue work on electricity and Carol will start work on a sheet to track propane usage.**

New Business:

Change in Energy Committee Meeting Day

Chris said that the Energy Committee meetings are becoming more difficult for him to attend since they are on the first Thursday of the month and there are conflicts in his schedule. The committee discussed changing the meetings to another Thursday and agreed to having it on the third Thursday of every month. **Bernie will post this change to the Town website.**

Other Business:

Review of 2009 CHEC Workplan

The Committee started a discussion on the 2009 CHEC Workplan. The Workplan is in the form of a spreadsheet with columns for rating proposed activities according to certain standards such as technical feasibility, administrative workability, political acceptability, economic viability, etc. Of the 59 activities listed, only 15 have ratings along these standards. The committee agreed

that some activities are more appropriately addressed by the Center Harbor Planning Board and we might attend one of their meeting to discuss these items. Also some activities may be better addressed at a regional level (e.g., Lakes Region Planning Committee - LRPC), but that the Center Harbor Energy Committee should be able to provide input. A member of the Center Harbor Planning Board attends meetings of the LRPC. Some activities are ongoing for our committee - in the form of educational publications, events and website postings. These and other activities on this list can continue to be educational. Some activities offer opportunities for Center Harbor to partner with or lend support to other towns.

Review of 2011 CHEC Goals

The committee agreed that 2011 CHEC Goals document contained many activities from the 2009 Workplan and possibly represented a refining of goals. **We agreed to continue working at refining the goals at each committee meeting going forward.**

NH Local Energy Solutions Update

Carol reminded committee members about the one-day NH Local Energy Solutions Conference to be held on Friday Nov. 16, 2018 at the Grappone Center In Concord. She had previously forwarded the October NHLES newsletter to committee members by email. She attended the 2017 conference for the first half of the day and found the sessions in the "Community" Track very valuable. The keynote speaker and the exhibits were also of great interest. She recommended that other committee members consider attending. **Carol plans to attend the Nov 16 Conference and will keep the committee up to speed.**

PAREI Update

Carol reported that she talked to Sandra Jones of PAREI who said that there will soon be a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the inaugural Solar Shares array in Plymouth. An announcement should be out shortly and Carol will update the group. Annette asked what other PAREI activities/projects are going on currently besides Solar Shares. Carol had forwarded to committee members an email from Sandra Jones earlier in the day about a Button-Up Workshop that PAREI is helping the Squam Lakes Association to sponsor on November 1. Sandra asked for the Energy Committee's help in publicizing this workshop. Carol has already forwarded Sandra's email to Moultonborough, Holderness and Sandwich. Bernie said he would post the flyer on the Energy Committee's part of the Center Harbor website, and ask Robin to post it on the general website and to put some copies on the bookcase in the lobby. Bernie also mentioned that the SLA has a 2018 project to "go solar" and are working with PAREI on this. **Carol will get up-dated on other PAREI work and continue to share information with the Committee.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Next meeting was scheduled for November 15, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Sullivan, October 5th, 2018.

Note: Items in red are to flag actions needed.