

Enfield Energy Committee
OCTOBER 24, 2023
Minutes

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

Attending in person: Kim Quirk, Jo-Ellen Courtney, Tracy Young, Marta Ceroni (Chair)

Attending remotely: Wendell Smith (alternate)

Excused: Paul Morrison

Minutes from September

MOTION: *Kim moved to approve minutes with the change noted below with one change: to remove the left-over action item for Kim to get electric bills from Deb Ford. Jo-Ellen seconded. Approved unanimously.*

Local Energy Solutions conference on November 2

Our membership with CENH (Clean energy NH) provides two tickets for in person (worth \$100 each).

ACTION: Jo-Ellen will register herself and Wendell for the two free tickets.

Municipal facilities advisory committee

The Emergency Services building will be heated and cooled primarily through heat pumps. An Infrared gas-fired unit will be the main heating source for the apparatus bay, given that is inherently inefficient. In addition, the building will have a backup gas boiler (for when exceptionally cold temperature could overwhelm the heat pumps) and because there are requirements to provide instantaneous high-volume showers in case of contamination. The building will have a very tight envelope. There are opportunities for the energy committee to continue to monitor cost savings due to energy efficiency.

Whitney Hall will also be heated with heat pumps.

Solar Array Savings

Kim, with support from Jo-Ellen, has been collecting data and calculating energy savings from the DPW solar arrays. The collection of the data has been challenging and the calculation brings some complexity requiring considering how much the Town pays Liberty, how much the Town exports to the grid, and how much the Town pays the solar array owner. Based on a thorough and still preliminary calculation, over the roughly two years that the Town has been generating electricity through the DPW solar array, the Town has totaled \$1,836 of savings. To put this number in perspective, we need to consider that the Town doesn't own the solar array and needs to buy electricity from the owner of the solar array, who didn't offer a competitive price in the first year.

In three years, the Town of Enfield has the opportunity to buy the solar array at a reduced cost and possibly take advantage of existing clean energy incentives.

ACTION: Kim to check with Alisa and Charlie on the invoices from solar array owner to check on total costs to the solar array owner.

ACTION: Kim and Jo-Ellen to present to the select board meeting in November on Community Power

Community Power

Selectboard Mtg

Here are the items we intend to present at the Nov 6th Selectboard meeting.

1. Solar Array Savings - first define PPA (Power Purchase Agreement) to remind people what that is and how it works and then the total photovoltaic electricity generated and the total savings.
2. Community Power update - how many towns are members; how many are receiving power now; what are Enfield's stats including savings.

Other Community Power updates:

Jo-Ellen visited Springfield, plans to visit Canaan with Andrew Hatch (consultant working for NH Community Power Coalition to broaden membership), and went to EVA's business coffee to discuss Community Power.

Streetlights

A sales rep from a solar power streetlighting company is coming to the area in November, but it looks like he can meet the day before Thanksgiving, which might not work for others.

Action item: Marta will stay in touch with Ed to suggest a different meeting date and keep the committee up to date.

DPW

Jo-Ellen and Marta went to DPW on October 9 to meet with Jim and Liam to discuss the status of the call for proposals to insulation contractors. The Selectboard approved the proposal from Chey Insulation. Jo-Ellen has been in touch with NH Saves to see whether Chey's proposal qualifies for financial support, which would be a significant money saver for the Town.

Visioning Session

Marta has summarized the highlights from Visioning session in a document.

ACTION: between now and the next meeting review the visioning document with a focus on the vision statement and any suggested changes, clarification questions, and suggested next steps or implications for our work.

Kim moved to adjourn the meeting; Tracy seconded. Approved unanimously. Adjourned at 7:10pm