Atkinson Energy Commission Regular Public Meeting June 11, 2019

Atkinson Town Hall Meeting Minutes

Meeting opened at 7:07 pm

Present: Ellyn Murphy, Marie Torris, Jim Garrity, and Michelle Veasey. Quorum established. David Cressman, Town Administrator joined for part of the meeting

Minutes of the April 9, 2019 meeting: Motion by Michelle Veasey seconded by Ellyn Murphy to accept the minutes. Passed 4/0/0

1. Solar power – Ellyn gave a debrief on her discussion with Diane Heer, director of the Kimball Library. Diane is in favor of using the library roof for solar (although the final agreement would need to be with the Trustees). She is not sure if the land behind the cemetery could be used for a ground-mount array. It is wet and graded. In addition, solar use might be prohibited by the Kimball Trust rules – she is not sure. Diane does expect that plans to expand the Library parking lot will move forward next year.

Action Item: Michelle to talk with Paul Wainwright about possible town owned land for solar. Ellyn to look for a list of all town owned land.

2. Street Lighting – conversion to LED. David Cressman has started conversations with Unitil and Eversource (2 street lights) about the stranded cost and what it would take to convert. We let David know that we have already done some research into this: we have 191 Unitil street lights with a stranded cost of \$12,360.

Action item: Jim to send David Cressman the files we have on LED street lights. David will debrief us when he has had more conversations with Unitil.

- 3. Street Lighting town policy. Tabled until next meeting
- 4. Siemens Energy Performance Contracting -- David Cressman has had experience with Siemens performance contracting and does not recommend we go this route. Atkinson has already done the "obvious" things. Also, without having schools in the mix he believes there is not enough to make it worth our while. He said that we might consider this route if we buy our street lights and want to hire someone to manage them.
- 5. Atkinson Building Needs Committee (BNC) –Ellyn attended the first meeting of the BNC as the Energy Commission rep. She gave a debrief about the goals and the next steps of the BNC. Michelle volunteered to attend the next meeting on June 26.

New Business

- 6. Replace Fire Station lights David Cressman and Dave Weymouth requested use of money from the energy efficiency warrant for new lighting on the outside of the Fire Station. Jim Garrity made a motion to allocate the remaining \$1,240.51 in warrant 2016-6 for fire station LED lighting as long as this satisfies the required < 3 year payback. The rebate for efficient lighting is expected to go back to warrant 2016-6 when received from Unitil for future energy projects. Seconded by Ellyn Murphy. Passed 4/0/0
- 7. Remote Net Metering from Gather (Waitsfield VT) David received a proposal from Gather which he passed to the commission. He does not recommend we proceed. The biggest negative is the long time we would need to lock in (20 years). David said that it is more of a financial proposal than an every savings proposal and we don't have any reason to take on their risk.
- 8. Meeting schedule Ellyn made a motion to meet once a month for the rest of the year so that we make faster progress on a solar warrant article for the March 2020 town meeting. Jim seconded. Passed 4/0/0

[NOTE: Subsequent to this meeting we were informed that there are limited meeting rooms on the second Tuesday of each month. Therefore we may need to change to Wednesday or Thursday. Final meeting day not yet resolved at the time these minutes were typed.]

9. Clean Energy NH – Michelle gave an update concerning our membership in Clean Energy NH. There is a Seacoast-towns hub with regular meetings. Michelle will attend these meeting as she can and will report back.

Michelle made a motion seconded by Marie to adjourn. 4/0/0 Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Next meeting: Tues, July 9, 2019, 7:00pm at Atkinson Town Hall