



# TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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## ENERGY COMMITTEE - MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: March 2, 2016: 7:00 PM, Syd Crook conference room.

Committee Members Present: Peter Vedova, Tim Paradis, Jan Beardsley-Blanco, Tom Little, Jamie Hess, Lisa Putnam, and Bill Spear. Dave Harris was traveling.

Brief description of subject matters discussed & final decisions (votes) taken (if any):

1. Minutes from the January and February meetings were accepted.
2. LED Street lighting upgrade: The committee discussed this new initiative at length.
  - a. A pilot fixture was installed in front of the town offices. The electrician has been paid for his services out of the committee budget.
  - b. There remains some issues with the Eversource grant. Thankfully Peter has been very diligent and continues to drive for an agreement. We are unable to use one style of fixture that enables intensity adjustments. Peter presented an acceptable alternative and we will move forward as planned. There is a slight (favorable) cost so we will not update our proposal.
  - c. After the town meeting and after we have a resolution from Eversource, we will promote the installation of the pilot fixture and ask residents for comments. Kim Hallquist is helping us to publish our announcement in the Intertown Record. Jamie will do a quick edit of the proposed article and send comments to Tim who will load the file to Google Docs. Peter will send a drawing of the fixture for the article. The file will be held until we are ready to run the article.
  - d. We discussed feedback from Eversource on the grant.
3. Dave Harris presented a plan for an electric car event in New London. Dave asked for and received volunteers to lead key initiatives for the event. The event is targeted for September 2016. A special planning meeting was held on March 11<sup>th</sup>. We had very good attendance at the meeting and made excellent progress on the plan.
4. Net metering cap in NH: the proposed house version of the bill passed in the house committee 19 to 0. The house version raises the cap from 50 to 100 megawatts. A house vote is planned in March. If it passes then it has to be reconciled with the senate version (50 megawatts to 75). There is broad support in the house. We anticipate the Public Utilities Commission being asked to develop a permanent solution.
5. The Energy Committee Roundtable is scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Montshire Museum in Norwich, VT. Everyone on the committee is welcome.
6. Future topics

- a. New London assessment policy for renewable energy/conservation. The New London Conservation Commission attended a meeting with the assessor in December. A representative of the Conservation Committee asked if our committee would support a bill or warrant article to formally eliminate alternative energy systems from property assessments in town. All present were unanimously in support. Update: The conservation committee has asked the energy committee to take responsibility for this effort. The energy committee is in agreement that we should move this forward as soon as current priorities are completed.
- b. New London buildings and feasibility of alternative energy. No change: we need to analyze energy bills and send that information as well. Bill Spear to coordinate creation of a workbook and the completion of the analysis.
- c. Dave created a Facebook page for the Energy committee and will work with Tom to allow others to add content. Dave asks that we start promoting the page to others (Like it!)
- d. Strategic planning discussion will resume at a future meeting, led by Bill and Tim
- e. Bud will investigate the public transportation system in Hanover and find out how Canaan, NH qualified.
- f. Dave and Bill will work to arrange an Eversource representative to attend our meeting(s).

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Bill Spear