

Approved 8/11/2021

Minutes of Energy Committee Meeting Wed. April 14, 2021 Via: Google Meet

Present: Conrad Liebenow, Renee Schmidt, Matt Stowell, Tim Walter, Judy Williams

The meeting convened at 7:02 P.M and the March. minutes were read but not approved as one member was unable to hear the minutes.

Tim reported that he contacted a solar company regarding solar on the roof of the pavilion. They referred him to a company that handles smaller solar projects. Conrad said that there is a bottleneck of projects at Eversource because the substation in Plainfield that serves several towns has reached its capacity. Eversource designs the substations but the developer must pay the cost of upgrades.

The Energy Committee reviewed proposals from Gary Kral, Senior Project Developer for Energy Resources: 1. The town hall -heat pump conversion would cost \$56,121, estimated Eversource incentive \$19,642 leaving a net project cost of \$36,479. 2. Town Hall to upgrade insulation \$18,859, estimated Eversource insulation \$7,080 leaving a net project cost of \$11,799. 3. Plainfield Town Offices/Library (Hallock Building) Heat Pump System \$66,156, approved Eversource incentive \$33,078 leaving a net project cost of \$33,078. The total cost of these 3 proposals would be approximately \$81,000 but it does not include insulation for the Hallock Building. Tim emphasized that there would still be \$11,000 left from the grant to consider a location for solar. A discussion commenced on the best location for solar. A suggestion was made to have a solar company evaluate Hathaway Hall for potential solar and insulation. A motion was made by Tim and seconded by Renee to recommend to the building committee: 1. Insulate Hallock Building 2. Insulate Town Hall 3. Install heat pumps at the Hallock Building. The motion was passed unanimously. Renee felt that the cost for heat pumps at the Town Hall was too expensive.

Conrad mentioned that he had been in touch with John Gates a contractor from HBAC in Turners Falls regarding the installation of heat pumps. He is an independent contractor so his proposal would have to go out to bid. The bids from contractors who work for Eversource do not have to go out to bid.

Matt Stowell is the representative from the Energy Committee to the All Boards Ad Hoc Committee. He reported that the Conway School of Design is going to submit a grant to develop a community plan and is soliciting ideas from all the different boards in Plainfield

At 8:45 P.M. a motion was made by Judy and seconded by Renee to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Williams