

Tunbridge Energy Committee Minutes- 4/5/2108- Tunbridge Library

Present: Todd Tyson, Betsy Gaiser, Henry Swayze, Jim Ludwig, Kevin Rose, Sylvie Desautels

Presenter: Bob Walker

1) Discussion on status of TEC vis a vis Open Meeting Rules for VT:

~ **Sylvie** will research and post rules to TEC members and make sure to follow rules.

~**Sylvie** will check with Jackie Higgins jackieh46@yahoo.com. Jeff Hanson for Tunbridge website

2) Street light discussion with Bob Walker. Bob Reported on how Thetford went about it. With grant money they bought their lights, switched to LED and now only pay for electricity. Involved police dept for safety issues. Talked with Select Board to discuss and lots of community involvement and especially folks who live within the lit district. CVP is did a trial outage and public feedback was sought out. Ended up turning off about half of their streetlights. They handed out feedback sheets to residents for input. Savings 89%. Traffic calming, safety and security were highly considered.

EV will pay for undepreciated cost (value of lights if they are not very old)

Bob figured Tunbridge could save 10,000 KWH or \$2100 p year without removing lights. Current cost to town for street lights: \$5196 p yr. This is the lease which includes electricity.

Bob suggestions:

A) Going to select board and including the community.

~ **Betsy** will go to next select board meeting and inform them of what we are up to

B) Go to other towns to see what LEDs look like. Call GMP to see who has recently made a switch. Have option of brightness. LEDs are a whiter light.

C) We are to contact GMP to find out about the lights on the bridge. Maybe this is a DOT cost.

~ **Betsy** will call.

D) Contact Paul Markowitz from Efficiency Vt for a grant form. EV has program to help towns replace street lights.

Henry suggests recommending that any savings could be reinvested in town infrastructure.

May 8 Tues-Vital Communities EC Roundtable at Montshire Museum 5-8:00

3) Discussion of Town Meeting initiative. Very little opposition. Survey a good idea.

Sylvie will tally rest of surveys and post on website

Sylvie will notify folks who signed info sheet of meetings etc.

4) Short discussion on possible projects. School systems are needing major revamping. Bob reported on Thetford's initiative to help folks button up their homes. Project was humming along with local builders volunteering time but ran into liability issues. Bob suggest working with EV and Cover and making sure Tunbridge folks know about these programs.

Upcoming events:

Tuesday April 10- Chelsea: Presentation on Wood pellet central heating systems.

Henry will research the possibility of pellet systems for school and get this to select board.

Tuesday May 8, Norwich: Vital Communities Energy Committee Round Table-h: Montshire Museum

<http://vitalcommunities.org/Energy/Roundtable/>

Thursday May 3-Tunbridge Energy Committee meeting-Library

Contacts:John Haenael-Zero by Degrees- Commercial Systems analysis-to evaluate Tunbridge School systems

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