

Atkinson Energy Commission

Minutes

July 12, 2016

7:30 pm

Type of Meeting: Regular Meeting

Meeting Facilitator: Michelle Veasey

Invitees: Public

- I. Call to order
- II. Roll call (Michelle Veasey, Ellyn Murphy, Marie Torris, Jim Garrity)
- III. Feedback from Green Fair/Energy Fair held April 9
 1. Nice job, the expansion from energy to include green living ideas, such as composting was a good edition. We will continue to refine this concept each year. The co-location with the Scouting electronic recycling event (2nd year running) seems to work well.
- IV. Open issues
 1. Update on lighting replacements/retrofits at the Atkinson Fire Station.
 - a. Michelle mentioned that Dave Weymouth and Alan Phair had met with Peter Dunn of North East Electrical Distributors (referred by the Atkinson Energy Commission) to look at the immediate lighting replacement needs at the Fire Station. After determining what potential LED replacements could be, Alan researched the up front costs. Originally, he thought he may need to ask permission of the Atkinson Energy Commission to let him use warrant article money for the Fire Department upgrades. After further research, it was determined that conventional florescent replacements with LED could be paid for with normal maintenance budget. The potential replacements of high bay sodium lights with LED was not a fast enough ROI (and would not qualify for the savings payback mentioned in the warrant article of 3 years), so they will forgo that option. There is no need to use the warrant article money at for Fire Station retrofits.
 2. Taking action on the approved 2016 Warrant Article.

- a. Since the Fire Department does not need the warrant money, the Commission must now work to address its immediate priorities for energy efficiency projects, in accordance the Warrant Article 2016-6

Article #2016-6 Energy Upgrades of Town Buildings

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate Four Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty-one Dollars (\$4,721.00) for the purpose of installing energy-efficient lighting, weatherization and cost-reduction upgrades (expected to save the town this amount within 3 years due to energy savings) in Town buildings as recommended in the 2010 and 2015 Atkinson Energy Audits, such funds to come from the Undesignated Fund Balance? No additional tax dollars will be needed to fund this appropriation. This is a non-lapsing article and will not lapse until the work is complete or until December 31, 2021, whichever comes first. This is in addition to Article #2016-2, the Operating Budget.

Recommended by the Board of Selectmen: 5 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain

Recommended by the Budget Committee: 6 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain

The Commission agreed that we should concentrate on LED lighting upgrades of the Town Hall, possible re-wiring some switches in the Town Hall, and possibly use remaining money (if any) to purchase smaller, lighter, window-unit air conditioners for the Atkinson Community Center. Also, the weather stripping of the main door of the Atkinson Community Center still needs to be done.

- Jim Garrity will contact Peter Dunn of NEEDCO, contact Dave Williams (ATK-TV) for the name of the upgrade vendor he mentioned, contact the Town Electrical Inspectors, and reach out to Elmer Arbogast about the best and most cost-effective approach to LED upgrades at Town Hall. Should we (can we) simply switch out bulbs to LEDs using the existing T8 ballasts, or do we need to bypass the ballasts for direct power (which would require an electrician)?
- Marie Torris will contact Dave Weymouth about installing the weather stripping in the Community Center front door.
- Jim Garrity will research the state laws concerning Energy Commissions, and whether the Commission can keep the rebates from Until in its own budget (non-lapsing) to apply to future energy upgrades.

3. Future events:

- a. We discussed hosting an event in the Fall at the Library (get ready for winter), and deferred discussion until the next meeting.

4. Meeting Schedule: our scheduled meetings for September 13 and November 8 need to be cancelled or rescheduled, since they are Election Days, and Jim, Ellyn, and Leslie will be working them as election officials.

V. Adjournment: 8:40 pm

Posted by: Jim Garrity, Secretary