

Rye Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 2, 2020

3:00 – 4:30 PM

Zoom™ Virtual Meeting

Meeting ID: 836-4538-0925 Password: 363749

The Rye Energy Committee held a remote Zoom virtual due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency. All votes taken during the meeting were done by roll call vote.

In compliance with the town's virtual meeting protocol, Lisa Sweet (member) of the Rye Energy Committee read the required attestation at the start of the meeting.

A roll call of meeting attendees found those attending and stated they were alone in room were: Tom Pfau, Michael Joyce, Carl Nicolino, and Lisa Sweet. Howard Kalet joined the meeting a few moments later.

June 2020 Rye Energy Committee Meeting Minutes:

The June Rye Energy Committee Meeting were approved by all members in attendance (Tom Pfau, Howard Kalet, Lisa Sweet, Carl Nicolino, and Michael Joyce). One minor edit to the meeting minutes is to change the header to 'Meeting Minutes' and not as 'Agenda'. Michael will coordinate with Kate Drago to have that change made.

Solar Proposal Update:

Tom and Howard met with Kevin Brandon of the Rye Budget Committee to develop a series of questions and pros and cons ahead of the joint meeting with ReVision Energy (Kevin Brandon, Scott Marion along with Ned Reynolds of ReVision Energy).

ReVision Energy responded both on the call and in a follow up email to share a cash-flow projection based on a 10-year bond. Members of the budget committee have raised additional concerns around the term shown in the proposal, the projected coupon rate calculated in the proposal, and question some additional assumptions which impact sensitivity analysis/ projections and will be following up again the week of July 13th to re-engage with ReVision Energy.

Community Power Options and Regional Power:

Tom communicated that a group out of Exeter is looking to organize with other local towns to create a sort of 'buying group' in an effort purchase power at a discounted rate and from various suppliers.

Does a regional gathering develop a framework so the Town of Rye could participate but not lead or take this on autonomously?

The town is now able to have in person meetings at Town Hall of 8-10 people so if a fact sheet is developed to present the Community Power and Regional Options it would be strongly preferred to present an overview to the BOS in person as opposed to via Zoom.

Lisa Sweet is interested in joining Tom to continue evaluating the opportunities. The next steps would be to have a fact-finding meeting with Exeter next week.

The plan would be to present a draft of the fact sheet at the Rye Energy August meeting.

Demand Charge Research and Updates:

Howard continues to research this topic, and based on a recent conversation with ReVision Energy thinks this conversation needs to be tabled for the moment due to option limitations.

Tom may look into Pika Energy's battery technology and options. Pika was

recently acquired by Generac so the distribution and installer networked may have been expanded in recent months since the sale.

Planned Controls Discussions and Update:

If the schools' systems are updated and synched then more data insights could be gleaned to assist in determining what can and cannot be done to facilitate energy optimization and savings. At present it seems a baseline needs to be established and what next steps are planned so perhaps Rye Energy Committee can lend assistance.

Howard will follow up and ask similar questions around controls to the Water District.

Municipal Lighting Project Update:

Howard had a recent conversation with the Town Administrator and the town is supportive of any additional lighting projects that are 'cost neutral'. Projects that require additional cost will be postponed at this time given the impact from Covid-19.

The original lighting upgrade proposal should be revisited by Kevin Walsh and Andy Richmond. A call between Carl Edin, Kevin Walsh and Andy Richmond could be beneficial to restart these discussions. An email should be sent to the parties involved. Tom will send the email.

New Business:

Michael announced that August will be his last meeting due to other commitments.

Next meeting scheduled for August Tuesday August 4th @ 3pm. Virtual meeting details will be disseminated prior.

Meeting adjourned at 4:17 pm