

Rye Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday November 10, 2020
3:00-4:30 PM, Via Zoom

Meeting ID: 869 6680 9930 Password: 321456 Call-in Number: 646-558-8656

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86966809930?pwd=Wm9SdT-RISTdPOVh4aGNXZmpVZlhkdz09>

1) Attestation and Roll Call:

Attestation read by: Tom Pfau

Howard Kalet: Present and alone in room

Tom Pfau: Present and alone in room

Lisa Sweet: Present and alone in room

Carl Nicolino: Present alone in room

Nancy Siopes: Present and alone in room

2) October Meeting Minutes Approval

The group approved the October meeting minutes.

Howard Kalet: Approved

Tom Pfau: Approved

Lisa Sweet: Approved

Carl Nicolino: not yet signed in

Nancy Siopes: will be sworn in later this week

3) Update on Select Board Meeting

At the most recent Select Board meeting (11/9/2020), the Energy Committee presented on the lighting upgrades, the solar project and community power.

A new member was also approved. The Energy Committee welcomes Nancy Siopes. We are looking forward to having her on the committee!

4) School Solar Update

School Board has approved the PPA agreement and it is under legal review. The installation should occur by late spring or summer. As the schools are the town's largest consumer of electricity and largest emitter of carbon, this project should save money, reduce emissions and make the cost of energy predictable for the future.

The committee is looking to put solar on the transfer station but will need to research options more to ensure the economics work for the town.

Also in the schools, a consultant (paid for by Eversource) is looking at the systems to help develop an Equipment Management Plan to try to reduce demand charges. The building management systems in RES is older and there is not one at RJH. This may be

an area for improvement. HVAC systems tend to create the highest demand and current AC is 24 years old. Upgrades will help when appropriate.

5) Community Power

Committee will continue to research Community Power. The Select Board was receptive to the idea. The target timeline is to continue to learn more, form a committee, create a plan, educate the community and have a warrant article for 2022.

6) Lighting Upgrade Update

The library is ready to proceed with the lighting upgrade. Eversource should be there on Thursday to begin the project. The town will complete the paperwork to initiate the upgrade soon. Eversource will cover half of the cost and the town will cover the other half. Projects are expected to pay for themselves with savings after about 3.5 years.

7) Eversource Distribution Charge Increase

Carl has been following this topic. Eversource originally asked for a 24% increase in distribution charges. This has been reduced to 4.6% which is much more manageable. This means that if you use 100 kWh per month, you will see a 50¢ increase in your monthly bill. The increase is effective 1/1/21. This is also when the new 6 month rate for energy supply comes out.

8) Clean Energy Conference

There were great resources provided by the conference including regional perspectives on clean energy, community power and NHSaves program.

9) December/January/February Newsletter

Due 11/16 - Lisa will draft.

10. New Business

Energy Committee will go to Budget Meeting November 19. Proposed budget is \$500 and this covers membership in Clean Energy NH, attendance at local conferences as well as any small projects to educate the community.

Next virtual meeting is on Tuesday, December 1 from 3:00-4:30 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 4:34 PM

A Checklist To Ensure Meetings Are Compliant With The Right-to-Know Law During The State Of Emergency

As Co-Chair of the Energy Committee, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are:

a) Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means:

We are utilizing Zoom for this electronic meeting.¹ All members of the Energy Committee have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone # 646-558-8656, with meeting ID # 869-6680-9930 and password 321456, or by participating via Zoom with meeting ID # 869-6680-9930 and password 321456.

b) Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting:

We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the meeting using Zoom or telephonically. Instructions have also been provided on the Town of Rye website at www.town.rye.nh.us

c) Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access:

If anybody has a problem, please call 603-964-5523 or email Janice Ireland at: jireland2@ryenh.us

d) Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting:

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled.

Please note that **all votes** that are taken during this meeting shall be done by **roll call vote**.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. When each member states their presence, please also state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-to-Know law.

¹ Many public bodies are utilizing video teleconferencing technology, such as Zoom, to ensure the electronic meeting comply with the Right-to-Know law and any applicable due process requirements. In certain circumstances, a regular business meeting of a public body may be conducted utilizing audio-only technology. If you have any questions about the appropriateness of the technology utilized to conduct your meeting, please consult your agency counsel or the Attorney General's Office.