

Rye Energy Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 4, 2022 3:00 – 4:30 PM

Town Hall

1. Attendance

Meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM. Howard Kalet, Tom Pfau, Carl Nicolino and Lisa Sweet were in attendance

2. Consensus on Agenda

Add a review of the comments on the Energy Aggregation Plan

3. December Meeting Minutes Approval

Approved by unanimous vote.

4. PSB Lighting Upgrade Update

Project should be finished by the end of the week pending a couple of small items (larger switch plate). Becky will sign off when the work is completed.

5. TD Bank Town Hall Annex Update

There is a meeting with the Select Board on Thursday to review the proposal before it goes out to bid.

6. Community Power/CPCNH Update

6.1. Status on Warrant Article

We are meeting with the Select Board on Thursday 1/6/22 at 5 pm to review and Select Board will vote on approval. Both the Town Manager and Town Counsel have reviewed and made comments which have been reviewed and addressed by CPCNH. The plan is written to enable Rye Community Power to exercise the maximum authorities under the RSA 53-E and related statutes while also giving them maximum flexibility and choice in how they launch.

6.2. Plan for Public Information Session 1/20/2022

Even with the rise in Covid cases, we still need to meet in person and have a quorum. We will plan to meet at Town Hall on 1/20/22 and use the new cameras to stream our Rye Community Power Public Information Session.

6.3. Logo

Options for logo include using a graphic with the ocean or Town Hall or monument from Rye Harbor State Park - or some combination. We will decide this at next meeting.

7. Clark Fenner of Senergy Solar Development

Clark Fenner met with us to discuss the possibility of a solar project on the Breakfast Hill landfill. This is the old Rye landfill, capped in the mid-80's, that the Select Board asked the Energy Committee to evaluate for a solar project. Clark attended the Energy Committee solar RFP site visit in 2019. His company did not respond to the RFP but they were interested in the possibility of developing a ground-based solar array on the landfill. He told us the six acres of land is large enough to allow an 800 kW - 1 MW solar array to be constructed which is more than large enough to power all the Town's facilities.

The Ciborowski family owns the landfill land but the Town assumes any liability for problems arising from it. The family is unable to develop the land due to DES restrictions on landfill development so they are interested in possibly selling the land to the Town for a nominal amount. Since the Town already assumes responsibility for the landfill, owning the property would not increase the Town's liability.

This is an interesting proposal that the Energy Committee will explore in 2022 to better understand the various options to report to the Select Board.

8. New Business

None

9. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 4:42 pm.

Next meeting February 1, 2022