

# **Rye Energy Committee Meeting Minutes - DRAFT**

**Tuesday, February 7, 2023**

**3:00 PM**

## **Rye Public Library**

1. **Attendance** - Howard Kalet, Tom Pfau, Silas Proft, Lisa Sweet, and Rob Spork (via phone)
2. **January Meeting Minutes Approval** - minutes approved unanimously
3. **Public Safety Building lighting enhancements** - the new lights are bothering a neighbor; lights will be replaced with an appropriate substitute
4. **Community Power Update and Roll Out Plans** - We presented information about Rye Community Power at the Deliberative Session on 2/5 and hosted an information table at Rye's first ever Civic Fest (sponsored by the Rye Civic League). There will be an information session for the public on March 13 at 5:15 pm, just before the Select Board meeting. The timeline for launch is somewhat delayed due to utilities not fully complying with the Community Power rules. Contracts with vendors have needed revision. Because of this delay, we will need to schedule another public information session that will be within 15 days of the mailed notifications being sent. Rather than reschedule the March 13 date, we will hold an additional session. The Energy Committee will also: hand out flyers at the Transfer Station on Saturdays in March, host a table with info at Town Meeting, meet with other groups, work with the Civic League to get the word out, and will make sure that the Select Board is fully up to speed with timeline updates and details. Tom will make sure our webpage stays up to date. CPCNH will supply handouts and a banner and we will include articles in Stroll magazine and the Town Newsletter. Tom will also put the word out on Nextdoor and Facebook.
5. **Library HVAC upgrade** - There is a warrant article for funding to supplement HVAC replacement at the library. The Energy Committee would like to be involved with improvements to municipal buildings to advise on efficiency and upgrades. The library is on board with meeting with the Energy Committee.
6. **Town Hall Annex HVAC expansion** - Energy Committee could investigate feasibility of adding geothermal for future phase, if built. The building already has an air source heat pump, so more of those could be added if geothermal is cost prohibitive.
7. **Town Hall weatherization and renovation** - Weatherization should have been implemented 10 years ago to improve efficiency and comfort of building. Jason will

get bids to Weatherization and after budget is settled, they can act to improve the insulation. When offices move, it may be a good time to make some improvements. Energy Committee might request to see rep to ensure that it includes previously made recommendations.

8. **Longer range tally of Town projects and savings** - Energy Committee will put together a list of projects and the savings to the town. This will include the lighting upgrades to the library and public safety building, contracts with competitive suppliers for municipal buildings, geothermal system at town hall, school solar, and rye community power.
9. We could also compile a list of town owned equipment (such as HVACs, vehicles, etc) so that we can track age of equipment and recommend timely, efficient replacements.

Can we add more members as alternate members? Will need to check with select board

10. Adjourn - Next meeting 3/7/23