

**TOWN OF UNDERHILL
ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES
Underhill Town Hall
Wednesday, March 14, 2018
FINAL**

Call Meeting to Order – at 6:30 p.m.

Welcomed Steve Webster as new member of Energy Committee

Quorum established Underhill Energy Committee (UEC) members in attendance: Peter Bennett (PB), Jerry Adams (JA), Steve Webster (SW), Ruth Julianelle (RJ)

Adjustments to Agenda—as noted below

Public Comment Period - none

Reviewed/Approval of Minutes from Feb 14, 2018

So moved by RJ, Approved

Town energy plan

PB, MO, and RJ will work with Planning Commission on Energy Plan in an advisory capacity

PB moved, Approved

UEC Facebook page

Discussion postponed

Solar Landfill Proposal status

Latest developments

- Selectboard asked Conservation Commission and Energy Committee to draft a “Pros & Cons” informational document for Town Meeting and a survey
- Selectboard, Conservation Commission, and PB (for the Energy Committee) agreed that such a document and survey are premature
- Proposed a public hearing instead
- PB looked at VT statute authorizing Cons. Comm.
Title 24: Chapter 118: Section 4506 may require a vote at the annual meeting in order to “divert [conserved land] to uses other than conservation or recreation...”
- PB, SW, and Pat Lamphere viewed the gravel pit on Beartown Road as a possible solar site

Motion for PB, RJ and SW to review solar project ideas with the Selectboard

RJ moved, approved

Motion for PB (GLG) & SW and RJ (Norwich & Peck) to review project ideas with possible developers - RJ moved, approved

- Review timeline
- Review potential issues
 - Are they interested in gravel pit?
 - Are they still interested in landfill, one year from now?

To consider a solar installation at the gravel pit we would need to:

- Verify Town Highway Department needs
- Identify any Selectboard concerns
- Verify who owns the land
- Verify boundaries
- Verify stability of soil, especially in “stump dump”
- Explore erosion concerns, etc.
- Confirm who has responsibility for what (e.g., testing soil, preparing the site, etc.)
- Explore what happens at end of useful lifetime and who has legal responsibility
- Does GMP have enough capacity to accept 150 kW?

Committee Operations

Discussion postponed, except:

1. Open meeting law review
 - PB will ask VLCT to clarify what we can do via email- can we discuss topics as long as we don't come to an agreement? -has the bill been passed?
2. Conflict of interest form – PB will e-mail
3. Election of Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary - postponed
4. Year going forward: priorities
 - Assist Planning Commission with energy plan revision
 - Weatherization forums, etc
 - Solar projects
 - Town Office heat pumps

Next regularly scheduled meeting – April 11, 2018

Adjourned Energy Committee Meeting 8:02 p.m.

RJ moved/approved

Submitted by

Peter Bennett, Steve Webster