

Bennington Energy Committee
June 1, 2016

Attendance:

Molly Eppig
Peter Eppig
Peter Martel
David McKenzie
Mike Munhall
Cathy Joly, Temple Energy Committee

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. The minutes were distributed and read, and accepted as written.

Action items from the May 4 meeting were reviewed. Mike Munhall presented the town map with the locations of the town's streetlights. He found that, rather than 48 lights, only 46 could be found. He showed the committee the draft Power Point presentation for the Select Board, and the committee reviewed it. David McKenzie informed the committee that a loan for the street light conversion could be obtained from the Clean Energy Fund of the New Hampshire Community Development Financing Authority. The Clean Energy Fund can provide a loan to finance the changeover, with the loan duration longer than the time it would take the energy-cost savings to pay back the initial investment. This has the result that the town would realize some savings right from the start. Peter Eppig volunteered to contact the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation to inquire about grant possibilities, and Peter Martel suggested that we could also contact NEGEF (New England Grassroots Environmental Fund). Peter Martel provided handouts and discussed his contacts with Keene and Manchester regarding these cities' experience with conversion of streetlights to LEDs. He reported that Manchester has completed their conversion and expects annual savings of \$300,000-450,000. David McKenzie reported that the city of Franklin has completed the changeover. The following action items were assigned:

- Contact Eversource for further information with regard to loans and rebates – Peter Martel
- Contact New Hampshire Charitable Foundation with regard to grants – Peter Eppig
- Get on the Select Board agenda for June 22 – David McKenzie

Peter Martel gave a brief presentation on efforts to establish a regional cooperative organization for energy projects. He provided handouts of material that he had e-mailed to committee members earlier in the day.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM

Recorded by David McKenzie