

MADISON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TOWN OF MADISON  
Madison Town Hall  
Thursday, March 24, 2016  
MINUTES

**NOTE:** These minutes from the March 24, 2016 Madison Energy Advisory Committee meeting were approved at the May 26, 2016 Committee meeting.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Noreen Downs (Co-Chair, Planning Board Member), Selectman Bob King, Russ Dowd (Co-Chair), Russ Lanoie, Nicole Nordlund, (Voters), Bruce Kennedy (Library)

**ABSENT:** Ken Eckhart (School Board), Bill Lord (committee recorder)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Madison TV, Tim Hughes

**MEETING POSTED:** At Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices and Town Hall upper and lower bulletin boards.

**CALLED TO ORDER:** By Co-Chairmen Noreen Downs & Russ Dowd at 7:05 p.m. This meeting was postponed from March 17<sup>th</sup> to receive the Eversource lighting proposal prior to the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Noreen Downs wants to add organizational business. Agenda approved with this addition.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes of the Feb. 25, 2015 meeting were approved; with a motion for approval by Kennedy, seconded by Lanoie and voted 7-0.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There were no public comments

**ORGANIZATIONAL BUSINESS:** Bill Lord has stepped down from committee for 2016, as he has taken on another project. The committee has sought approval from the Board of Selectmen for Chris Young to take future meeting minutes in Bill Lord's absence. The committee recognizes and is thankful for the dedication and excellent work by Bill Lord.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Town Meeting has approved the Warrant Article, relevant to tax on renewables, brought forth by this committee. It was received favorably and possibly unanimously. Moving forward with how to incorporate this, it was noted that the town of Epping has renewable energy information written in to their site plan review. Investigations on how other towns handle it will be done. We may need to do nothing, other than have it on books and have information available for firefighter safety reasons. Applying for the exemption, if necessary, may possibly be done along w/ building permit application. Noreen stated that there exists State Hubs, for the purpose of promoting energy efficiency and renewables, and that the MWV Citizens for Energy Efficient Communities (also known as Citizens Energy Team) is now participating as a hub for this region.

2. The committee reviewed our very impressive tour of the North Conway Waste Water Treatment Plant. They currently heat w/ geo-thermal and run on part solar. The next phase is to clear 13 acres for another solar field, which will produce enough electricity to be able to sell excess out on the market. The plant manager, David, was an impressive figure in getting this project done and has done so, taking advantage, of all available “free monies” via grants and other energy programs.
3. Ken Eckhardt is working on a job description for town to get a point person for getting Madison building upgrade projects accomplished.
4. Russ Dowd is meeting with Rick Handley of NH Wood Energy Council, on Monday March 28. Mr. Handley is the technical services provider contracted through the Forest Service grant. Russ says Mr. Handley needs about a day to review the school and Madison garage.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. The results of an energy/lighting proposal from Carl Edin of Energy Management Consultants (contracted by Eversource for this audit and project development) show lighting retrofit and upgrades to new technology to have a very positive outcome. Making recommended changes to 4 of our buildings (Town Hall, DPW Garage, maintenance garage and fire station) will have a payback period of 2-3 years with a 50% funding incentive provided by Eversource. The library was considered but not included due to it being a newer facility and payback threshold could not be met. The total project cost is projected to be \$16,380, meaning the town would fund half at \$8,190. Two funding possibilities are possible: a.) the town pays the \$8,190 and proceeds with the project, or b.) the town applies for Smart Start through New Hampshire Saves, accepts a 10% project cost administration fee, and pays nothing upfront for the installation with Eversource using the electric savings over time to pay for the towns share of the upgrade until it is paid. Then the town realizes the savings from there on out. With the 10% project cost administration fee the payback timeline extends a little for the town (Eversource incentive is 40% of the project cost and the town pays 60%). The Smart Start application would need to go in soon as possible as funding is running out and Madison may be on a waiting list for our application to be accepted and processed and waiting well into next year.

Russ Dowd made the motion to recommend to the Board of Selectmen that the town apply for Smart Start for the high-performance lighting improvement project as prepared for the town by Carl Edin of Energy Management Consultants (EMC) Inc. Lanoie seconded. The committee felt it important to not miss opportunities. Approved 7-0.

2. Noreen Downs pointed out that some of the lighting upgrades presented by EMC were not the latest technology (fluorescent was recommended in some cases over LED for example). The reason given was that some of the upgrades to newer technology did not meet the Eversource threshold for the payback in order to qualify for the 50% incentive. However, if the town is going to proceed with the retrofit project which takes time and effort, we shouldn't ignore the costs of doing this twice perhaps years down the road versus doing it once.

Noreen made a motion for Rockingham Electric to review the details of high performance lighting improvement project and recommend lighting upgrades to the newer technology, and include the library. Seconded by Bruce. Approved 7-0.

3. Discussion on the quotes for insulation and weatherization of the town hall and the library. With the cost exceeding \$5,000, there is the need to prepare an RFP to go out to bid. Bob King said we need to contact Sue Stacey for this process.

#### **REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Russ Dowd and Ken Eckhardt will be meeting with Rick Handley at the Madison school and the Madison maintenance garage on Monday March 28 for the NH Wood Energy Council feasibility study preparation.
2. Noreen Downs and Russ Dowd will be following the progress of the EMC lighting proposal and the Smart Start application approval with the Board of Selectmen.
3. Noreen Downs will be asking about property assessment application and building permit upgrades for renewables at the state energy HUB meeting.
4. Bob King will follow-up with the Board of Selectmen on the property assessment exemption and building permitting for renewables, and asking about the town hall 3<sup>rd</sup> floor future needs as office space.
5. Noreen Downs will contact Sue Stacy for an RFP on insulation and weatherization project. Russ Dowd will check with Mark Toussaint on the New Hampshire Saves – Smart Start regarding the municipal weatherization incentives.
6. Noreen Downs will coordinate with Rockingham Electric on the lighting upgrades and report back to the committee via email.

**NEXT MEETING;** The committee came to agreement that they would move to quarterly meetings, with the understanding that with so much going on at this time, a meeting may need to be called in the interim.

The next meeting will be Thursday May 26, 2016 at 7 pm at Town Hall

**ADJOURN:** 8:37 p.m. Kennedy made a **motion** to adjourn, seconded by Dowd, and so voted unanimously 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Nordlund and Noreen Downs  
Stand in Records