

**Orford Energy Committee
Minutes of the Meeting (Approved)
September 10, 2019 7:00pm
Orford Town Offices**

Present: Regular members: Ted Cooley (Chair), Mark Blanchard (Vice Chair) Robb Day, John Miller, Jordon Sutherlin; Alternate: Emily Bryant (Secretary); Other: Dave Smith.

“>>>” indicates an action item.

Meeting came to order at 7:00 pm.

1. Minutes of July 9, 2019: Changes: Item 2: change “Haehnal to “Zero by Degrees”; Item 4: Add “including the map” to the sentence beginning “Jordon and Ted...”

Motion (John/Robb) to approve the minutes of July 9, 2019 as revised. The motion passed.

2. Town Offices

- Drainage/water mitigation: Ted and Jordon attended the 7/24/19 Select Board (SB) meeting and gave them the project description and site map for the proposed work on the Town Offices, to be done by Clifton Taylor. The SB agreed to go ahead with the project. Jordon verified with Clifton that he is still willing to do the work for free, even though his equipment has been moved farther away.

>>> Jordon will contact Clifton to see when he can do the work and will let the OEC know the date so someone from the OEC can be there.

- Energy saving steps: Esther reports that there are more holes in the foundation of the Town Offices building. Making temporary repairs was discussed since they would help save energy. Date for repairs to be determined pending examination.

- Facilities Coordinator: Dave said that for personal reasons he needs to step down from volunteer positions such as facilities coordinator. The question was raised as to where the position of facilities coordinator resides -- part of OEC or not? No action taken.

- Historic Registration:

>>> Mark said he would look into the email from Carl Schmidt about listing the Town Offices on the NH Register of Historic Places.

- Role of OEC: At the 7/24/19 SB meeting, there was discussion about the role of the OEC. The SB indicated concern that the OEC was doing some management of operations where that is the role of the SB. They felt that the OEC’s role was more in getting and spreading information about energy programs. When the SB asked why the OEC was looking into the possibility of putting the Town Office on the NH Register of Historic Places, Ted mentioned that registration enabled application to grants for

energy improvements to the building. That was acceptable to the SB.

3. OEC alternate member: The sense of the meeting was that Dave would be a valuable member of the OEC. Dave was agreeable to this, especially as alternate, given his busy schedule.

>>> Ted will write a letter to the SB requesting that Dave be appointed as alternate member of the OEC.

3. Idling Policy: On the NH DES web site Jordon found a model idling policy, which the state suggests that municipalities adopt:

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/tsb/tps/msp/irc/categories/overview.htm>

The policy would apply to town vehicles (excepting emergency vehicles) and is based on temperature and time:

Temp (deg)	Max time idling
32 or above	5 minutes
-10 to 32	15 minutes
Less than -10	no limit

The site also gives reasons for having such a policy, including saving fuel and thereby town funds.

Jordon said that if the Town had a written policy, backed by the state, it would be hard to ignore. He also said that there are “No Idling” signs that could be posted. Ted suggested putting information on idling on the OEC web page. Jordon said that NH DES has a newsletter that could be posted on the OEC web site.

>>> Jordon will send links from the DES web page on this topic around to the OEC.

>>>The Idling Policy will be put on the agenda for the October OEC meeting, to make an idling policy proposal to present to the SB.

4. Electric Vehicle Expo: Bob Walker of Vital Communities requested that we publicize the EV Expo, which will take place on Sat, Sept 14. John just put an announcement for it on the Orford Listserv.

5. OEC mission: Ted requested opinions from those present about what the mission of the OEC should be. Discussion ensued:

Ted: there seem to be two areas that the OEC could work in: to benefit the government of the town, and to benefit the citizens of the town, and both are critical. Mark agreed.

Ted: Lebanon is doing a comprehensive review of energy in the city. Energy storage is a big issue.

Mark: OEC serves as a link to other energy committees in the area – more than just web links.

Jordon: Good to get change/improvements going in town.

Robb: There are actually a lot of energy saving things happening in town if you look for it – e.g. solar panels, EV’s, heat pumps.

Idea put forth: Have an open house or a showcase of energy projects in town, perhaps bi-monthly.

6. Next Meetings: 8th October, 12th November: Niles room, Orford Town Offices, 7:00pm

7. Adjourn

Motion (John/Robb:) to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:27pm

Minutes taken by Emily Bryant.