

Orford Energy Committee

Meeting of the Committee
Tuesday 8 June 2021 at 7:00 P.M.
Town Offices, Niles Room

MEETING MINUTES

1. **Meeting called to order 7:08 PM**
Those attending: Mark Blanchard (chair), Scott Gagnon, Ted Cooley, John Miller (secretary)
2. **Approved Minutes:**
11 April 2021 Online Meeting. Ted moved and Scott seconded motion to approve minutes as submitted with addition of clarification. Members were fully supportive of resumption of in-person meeting for June.
3. **Reports & Updates:**
 - Town Projects: 2013 Streetlight result (Cooley)
 - Ted summarized the OEC recommendation to the Selectboard in 2013 based upon conditions at that time under PSNH.
 - OEC received an email request from Selectboard chair, John Adams asking that the Orford Energy Committee once again undertake a project to bring forth a current recommendation toward upgrading street lighting.
 - Mark observed that the scope of any such project ought to be broad enough to consider private as well as municipal lighting. This might address light pollution and safety issues related to glare, etc.
 - Ted noted that John Carol was well informed about street lighting issues during the 2013 project and would be a welcome addition to this project, should it move forward.
 - John referred to information emailed to OEC members regarding Eversource involvement in LED lighting upgrades within other (larger) communities and suggests that contact with them might provide a template for any such recommendation. (See attachments).
 - Grant outlook re Federal \$, regional engagement
 - No new information
 - Presentations
 - No new information
 - Connections re possible initiatives on EVs, Battery s & microgrids
 - Ted volunteered to continue pursuing these.

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- Housekeeping: Transition, OEC info infrastructure
 - Mark expressed a strong desire toward electronic, rather than paper record keeping for all activities of the OEC.
 - Information sharing in the context of RSA 91-A:2 Open Meetings.
 - Mark suggests that subcommittees be utilized whenever possible, minutes be recorded at such meetings. OEC Monthly meetings ought to be summaries / highlights and formalizing agenda issues rather than discussion forums.
 - Mark and Ted encouraged all to utilize energy@orfordnh.us Gmail account for ALL OEC correspondence.

4. **Business:**

- Town Meeting 22 May Effect on OEC (none)
- Other EC connections re potential projects such as Microgrids
 - (See above. Ted to pursue)
- OEC Website: Navigation, content
 - Mark again encouraged all to visit / review Orfordnh.us website <http://orfordnh.us/commissions-committees/energy-committee/>
 - Ted will check / confirm that current officers are correctly stated.
- OEC posture on “State Energy Strategy” 2021 update
 - John had emailed information from New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives, 2021 Energy Strategy Revisions – 10 Year Energy Strategy – Public Input <https://www.nh.gov/osi/energy/programs/2021-energy-strategy-revisions.htm>
 - Mark asked the group what they believed to be OEC’s role should be. John observed that the plan as currently drafted seems somewhat biased toward financial concerns and out of alignment with U.S. Department of Energy priorities <https://www.energy.gov/>
 - Ted noted that his participation in the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission offers potential collective “voice” toward expression of support and / or constructive criticism of the draft plan.
 - Mark moved and Scott seconded a motion that OEC distribute an invitation to Public Comment via the Orford@Googlegroups.com listserv, authorizing John to do so.
- Mark suggests that OEC consider long term goals and objectives for this committee.

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5. **Next meetings:**

OE Committee Meetings:

13 July, 10 August, 14 Sept. all Niles Room, 7:00 p.m. Unless advised
otherwise

6. **Adjourned 8:09 PM.** John moved, Scott 2nd, all in favor.