

# Town of Pawlet, Vermont

## Energy Group Meeting

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### Meeting Notes

**Date and Time:** Wednesday July 9, 2014 @ 12:00 noon

**Location:** Pawlet Town Hall

**Members in Attendance:** Sue LaPorte [sel53@vermontel.net](mailto:sel53@vermontel.net)  
Elizabeth Gibson [egib@vermontel.net](mailto:egib@vermontel.net)  
Nancy Morlino [nancym259@aol.com](mailto:nancym259@aol.com)  
Harry Van Meter [hevanmeter@gmail.com](mailto:hevanmeter@gmail.com)

**Members Absent:** Cintia Morrissey (pt) [amiconst@gmail.com](mailto:amiconst@gmail.com)  
Ken Friedman [kenneth.j.friedman@gmail.com](mailto:kenneth.j.friedman@gmail.com)

**Others in Attendance**

**Others copied**

**Purpose/Intent of Meeting:** To foster discussion of topics relevant to the awareness of energy use, efficiency and conservation within the Town of Pawlet and to establish and promote guidelines for the implementation of the energy initiatives set down in the Town Plan. The Group, at the request of the Pawlet Planning Commission, will take a lead role in revising the **Energy** section of the Town Plan for 2015.

If it is believed that these meeting notes are not complete, accurate, or in context, please notify the undersigned of such discrepancy within ten days following receipt of this record.

*Item key: xx.xx.xx – first 2 digits indicate year, second 2 digits indicate month and last 2 digits indicate item of discussion.*

<u>Item</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>
14.07.01	Replacement of Town Street Lights	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The Group briefly revisited Nancy's recommendations regarding the elimination of some street lights in order for the Town to save energy costs;</li><li>2. In total 21 would be eliminated between the villages of Pawlet and West Pawlet and 1 would be added at the intersection of</li></ol>	

Town Hall  
Pawlet, Vermont  
05761

## Meeting Notes

July 9, 2014 @ 12:00 noon

Page 2 of 3

<u>Item</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>
		<p>Rupert Mountain Road (TH-24) and Mary Lane (west side of the bridge across the Mettowee River) – a new fire standpipe has been installed at the west end of the bridge;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>3. Nancy agreed to go to the next Select Board meeting on July 22<sup>nd</sup> with marked up copies of the streetlight maps and suggest a 6 month trial period in which the lights would be turned off;</li><li>4. Nancy will contact GMP to ask how we should post each light pole – it was suggested a brightly colored card reading “Streetlight Elimination Under Study” be stapled to each pole holding a light fixture being turned off;</li><li>5. Nancy will ask the Select Board if they want to have a public meeting during the trial period, so community residents can voice their objections;</li><li>6. Elizabeth will put an article in the Pawlet Newsletter after the Select Board states it’s position;</li><li>7. Nancy said that fixtures will not be permanently eliminated until after they are fully depreciated;</li><li>8. Nancy will try to get a pole-by-pole depreciation schedule;</li><li>9. Harry asked if the new fixtures will be classified as “dark sky” compliant – Nancy showed a catalogue cut of the proposed fixture, which appears to be compliant.</li></ol>	
14.07.02	Town Energy Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Elizabeth requested that the Group revisit the Thetford Town Plan Energy section, which may help us in fine-tuning our draft outline – EG will redistribute the Word file of the section;</li><li>2. There is 1 more meeting before the Group needs to submit our final draft of the outline for the Energy section of the 2015 Town Plan;</li></ol>	<b>EG</b>

## Meeting Notes

July 9, 2014 @ 12:00 noon

Page 3 of 3

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		3. Sue said that she is not clear on what “demands...by usage sector” actually means in relation to the Town energy profile – the Group needs to better define what this means and how to go about getting the information;	
		4. Sue and Harry said that the Planning Commission wants the PEG to propose policy statements relative to each alternative energy source discussed in the Town Plan – EG pointed out that the Energy Planning & Implementation Guidebook for Vermont Communities states that Town Plans should have “a statement of policy on patterns and densities of land use likely to result in conservation of energy” and “ a statement of policy on the development of renewable energy sources;	PEG
		5. Since the last meeting Ken has circulated to PEG members research he has done on wind power in an email dated June 4, 2014;	
		6. Harry will contact the Wentworths on rt 153 West Pawlet to discuss their experience with a geothermal system they installed over a year ago;	HVM
		7. Sue said that Cintia has looked into a heat pump system for the Town Hall and would be a good resource for information on geothermal systems.	
14.07.03	PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy)	1. There was no further discussion on this topic since the last meeting.	
14.07.04	Next meeting	Wednesday August 6, 2014 @ 12:00 noon in the Pawlet Town Hall.	

Submitted by:

Harry Van Meter, Recording Secretary