

# Town of Pawlet, Vermont

## Energy Group Meeting

---

### Meeting Notes

**Date and Time:** Thursday May 8, 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)  
Harry Van Meter [hevanmeter@gmail.com](mailto:hevanmeter@gmail.com)  
Ken Friedman [kenneth.j.friedman@gmail.com](mailto:kenneth.j.friedman@gmail.com)  
Nancy Morlino [nancym259@aol.com](mailto:nancym259@aol.com)

**Members Absent:** Cintia Morrissey (pt) [amiconst@gmail.com](mailto:amiconst@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>
14.05.01	Replacement of Town Street Lights	1. With the help of the streetlights map provided by the RRPC, Nancy has analyzed where the streetlights in the town are located today and where they are needed according to Efficiency VT guidelines, ie: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Public spaces</li></ul>	

# Meeting Notes

May 8, 2014 @ 12:00 noon

Page 2 of 4

<u>Item</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Recreation areas</li><li>• Downtown areas</li><li>• Bus and transit stops</li><li>• School bus stops – need to get most recent map</li></ul>	<b>SLP</b>
2.		In general decision should be “based on safety and efficiency: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Security</li><li>• Pedestrian safety</li><li>• Vehicular safety</li><li>• Convenience</li><li>• Sidewalk areas</li></ul>	
3.		Nancy said that as a result of the analysis she has found that 20% of the current streetlights can be eliminated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• She estimates that a \$9,400 savings over 2.9 years is possible,</li><li>• Nancy will PDF her findings and email to HVM for the minutes;</li></ul>	<b>NM</b>
4.		Nancy has identified only a few locations where a new streetlight would be advisable;	
5.		Clarence Decker is currently responsible for maintenance of the streetlights <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PEG recommends that NM take over maintenance responsibilities for the Town streetlights;</li></ul>	<b>SLP</b>
6.		SLP & NM will mark the poles where it is recommended to the Select Board that lights be eliminated;	<b>NM</b>
7.		EG will put an item in the newsletter when a final streetlight elimination program has been approved by the Select Board as a means of warning the town residents;	
8.		After public notification, the lights will be turned off for 6 months to give the public time to submit complaints to the Select Board;	
9.		The ultimate goal is to replace the current light heads with energy efficient LED heads	

# Meeting Notes

May 8, 2014 @ 12:00 noon

Page 3 of 4

<u>Item</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Nancy said:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a 4 yr payback and a \$7,400 savings by switching to LEDs;</li> </ul> </li> <li>10. Nancy recommended to phase the replacement of the light heads as depreciation expires;</li> <li>11. It was recommended that this replacement program be given space in the energy section of the Town Plan.</li> </ul>	
14.05.02	Town Energy Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. EG handed out an outline of the energy section for discussion;</li> <li>2. It was suggested to PEG by Johanna Miller, <i>Energy Program Director</i> for VNRC, that members review the Waterbury (pg 57 – 67) and Thetford town plan energy sections;</li> <li>3. EG will contact the Dorset energy committee for reference to their Town Plan;</li> <li>4. SLP &amp; EG will come to the May 26<sup>th</sup> Planning Commission meeting;</li> <li>5. PEG goal is to have a final outline of the energy section to the PPC by the August PPC public meeting;</li> <li>6. For the next PEG meeting members are to review the outline distributed today and any recommendation from other town plans EG passes on prior to the meeting;</li> <li>7. VCAN is coordinating regional town energy meetings – it was recommended that PEG members attend;</li> <li>8. It was mentioned that the Town of Lowell gives tours of their wind turbine installations – it was recommended that some PEG members take a tour.</li> </ol>	<p>EG</p> <p>SLP EG</p> <p>PEG</p>
14.05.03	PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Some towns in Vermont are implementing programs;</li> <li>2. PEG needs to get PACE on the ballot for next March;</li> <li>3. PEG to meet with the Select Board to get them on board;</li> <li>4. It was recommended that PEG prepare a flyer to hand out at the November elections;</li> </ol>	<p>PEG</p>

## Meeting Notes

May 8, 2014 @ 12:00 noon

Page 4 of 4

<u>Item</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>
		5. PEG members are to brainstorm ideas to promote PACE to the Town residents.	<b>PEG</b>
14.05.04	Next meeting	Wednesday June 4, 2014 @ 12:00 noon in the Pawlet Town Hall.	

Submitted by:

Harry Van Meter, Recording Secretary