

# Town of Pawlet, Vermont

## Energy Group Meeting

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**Date and Time:** Monday October 27, 2014 @ 12:00 noon

**Location:** Pawlet Town Hall

**Members in Attendance:** 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)  
Ken Friedman [kenneth.j.friedman@gmail.com](mailto:kenneth.j.friedman@gmail.com)

**Members Absent:** Cintia Morrissey [amiconst@gmail.com](mailto:amiconst@gmail.com)  
Ken Friedman [kenneth.j.friedman@gmail.com](mailto:kenneth.j.friedman@gmail.com)  
Sue LaPorte [sel53@vermontel.net](mailto:sel53@vermontel.net)

**Others in Attendance** Deb Hawkins

### 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>
14.10.01	Replacement of Town Street Lights	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Nancy reported that no further complaints have been received for the light shut-off trial program.</li><li>2. Elizabeth reported that the light shut-off program has been has been posted to the Pawlet web site.</li><li>3. Nancy reported that 12 lights in West Pawlet and 8 in Pawlet have been turned off for a total of 20, which is 30% of the current inventory.</li><li>4. Nancy said that Green Mountain Power turned off the lights few</li></ol>	

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		weeks ago, which entailed flipping a switch at the fixture on top of the pole.	
		5. Elizabeth reported that the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC), along with the AARP and RAPAC did a walk around Pawlet Village to review pedestrian safety. Elizabeth said that this included street a light review. Nancy said that she will follow up with Susan Schreibman for outcome of the walk around.	
		6. Nancy said she will speak with Ethan Bellavance, energy consult at Efficiency Vermont, to recalculate the depreciation and cost payback with the 30% shut off.	
		7. Nancy said that the study goes to end of November 2014 and, if PEG receives no further objections from the community, we will recommend to the Select Board to leave them off.	<b>NM</b>
		8. Deb Hawkins said that Sarah Ludlum of the Select Board did the walk around, so she would be familiar with the comments made.	
		9. Nancy said that the next step to is to purchase and install the LEDs. The quantity is 41 required after turn off.	<b>NM</b>
<b>14.10.02</b>	<b>Town Energy Plan</b>	1. No further work was done on the energy plan at this meeting due to time.	
		2. Elizabeth reported that Lenny is following up with the RRPC on a Municipal Planning Grant that was applied for by the Planning Commission last month for money to assist in the writing of the 2015 Town Plan.	
		3. Harry said that, since there is seems to be general confusion regarding time frame that decisions and written sections of the plan need to be completed, he may prepare a milestone schedule for the for PPC, time permitting.	<b>HVM</b>
		4. Harry reported that Northeast Solar has started laying out the installation of their solar field on the site on Rt 30, north of Blossom's Corner.	
		5. Elizabeth said that the Health Center was supposed to be a major subscriber in the Northeast Solar project, but she understands they have backed out. Harry said that the PPC is in favor of solar panels as a sustainable solution, but wants to confine such large-scale development to the industrial zones in the Town.	
<b>14.10.03</b>	<b>PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy)</b>	1. Deb Hawkins joined the PEG discussion to explain the process of getting a PACE initiative on the ballot for the March Town elections.	
		2. Deb said that PEG must go to the Select Board and: a. ask to be put on the calendar for getting on the ballot,	<b>PEG</b>

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<u>Item</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>b. PEG must get signed petitions of 5% of registered voters, which would be 60 – 70 signatures,</li><li>c. Ballots for absentee voters need to be sent 30 days prior to the elections,</li><li>d. Information to the company that prepares the ballots must be sent in January.</li></ul>	
		3. Deb said that this would be a “Yes/No” ballot.	
14.10.04	<b>New business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Elizabeth said that Efficiency Vermont is holding public forums with a light supper starting tomorrow. There is one on 11/5 in Bennington and another on 12/11 in Brandon.</li><li>2. Nancy said she may go to the one on Nov. 5<sup>th</sup> and Elizabeth said she may go on Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>.</li><li>3. Elizabeth said that on Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> there is a “Button-Up Vermont” day of activities. Elizabeth said she will put a notice on web site.</li><li>4. Elizabeth said there is a VECAN energy day in Fairlee at the Lake Morey Inn on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. She said that Efficiency Vermont is giving away a free “nest” thermostat to all study participants.</li></ul>	<b>NM/EG</b> <b>EG</b>
14.09.04	Next meeting	Monday November 24, 2014 @ 12:00 noon in the Pawlet Town Hall. PEG meetings are the 4 <sup>th</sup> Monday of every month. Harry & Ken will work out the details of video conferencing before the next meeting.	

Submitted by:

Harry Van Meter, Recording Secretary