

# Town of Pawlet, Vermont

## Energy Group Meeting

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### Meeting Notes

**Date and Time:** Wednesday April 3, 2013 @ 12:00 noon

**Location:** Pawlet Town Hall

**Members in Attendance:** Sue LaPorte [sel53@vermontel.net](mailto:sel53@vermontel.net)  
Cintia Morrissey [amiconst@gmail.com](mailto:amiconst@gmail.com)  
Harry Van Meter [hevanmeter@gmail.com](mailto:hevanmeter@gmail.com)

**Members Absent:** Ken Friedman [kenneth.j.friedman@gmail.com](mailto:kenneth.j.friedman@gmail.com)  
Elizabeth Gibson [egib@vermontel.net](mailto:egib@vermontel.net)

**Others in Attendance:** Peter Crapo Green Mountain Credit Union  
Tom Edwards Green Mountain Credit Union  
Rex James RegionSolar

**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.

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>
13.04.01	March meeting	There was no meeting held in March and, due to the length of the presentations, there was no time to review the notes from the February meeting.	
13.04.02	Presentaton by Green Mountain Credit Union	1. Tom Edwards and Peter Crapo from Chittenden County met with the Energy Group to explain the loan programs now available to residents of, those who work in	

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		<p>or who worship in Rutland County and become members of the GMCU for energy projects;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Loans can be for anything from home weatherization to alternative energy projects;</li><li>Loan rates vary from 4.5% to 5.5%;</li><li>GMCU takes mortgage lien on property to secure the loan;</li><li>Cintia pointed out that Neighborworks of Western Vermont, by contrast, will guarantee loans to borrowers at rates of 1.5% to 2% without property liens;</li><li>Cintia suggested Bob and Peter talk to Melanie Paskevich, who is H.E.A.T. Squad coordinator for NeighborWorks of Western Vermont.</li></ol>	
13.04.03	Presentation by RegionSolar	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Rex James described the business model of RegionSolar which entails construction of 150Kw to 500Kw PV installations in various locations around Vermont;</li><li>RS has investors who provide financing of installations;</li><li>RS is looking for towns that are in favor of development of 4 to 6 acre PV fields;</li><li>RS will pay a lease on town-owned property;</li><li>Typical contract is 20 to 25 years, which can be renegotiated at the end of term or sold to the town or another private owner;</li><li>At 20 years PV panels have lost 20% of their efficiency;</li><li>RS does not typically do residential scale projects, as the installation needs to have access to 3-phase electrical facilities;</li><li>Town has option to tax power produced by solar projects in the town, but this can have negative aspects;</li><li>Town decides where power will be used, ie. Town buildings and facilities, schools, industrial or commercial developments, etc.</li><li>Compensation is in terms of credits that appear on the utility bill from Vermont</li></ol>	

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05761

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<u>Item</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action</u>
		Power; 11. Town of Pawlet will research potential locations where PV would be desirable and in conformance with the Town Plan and will coordinate ideas with the Pawlet Planning Commission; 12. SP took Rex to some potential sites following the meeting.	
13.04.04	Next meeting	Wednesday May 1, 2013 @ 12:00 noon in the Pawlet Town Hall	

Submitted by:

Harry Van Meter, Recording Secretary