



**Town of Henniker
Energy Committee Minutes
Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 7:00 pm
Henniker Grange Building**

Members Present in Person: Michael French, Mark Mitch, Bill Marko, AJ Heinrich, Dina Pinnell, Rod Pimental
Members Present Virtual: None
Member's Excused: None
Selectboard Representative: Bill Marko
Recording Secretary: Scott Osgood Minute Taker
Guests: Dan Goodenough, Scott Osgood

Mike French moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, seconded by Bill Marko. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion ensued about the committee chairmanship.

Members detailed interests with the committee. They will include solar and energy issues. Members noted past experiences.

Bill Marko noted he joined the committee in 2017 and took the position after from the prior Selectboard member.

AJ Heinrich is a new comer to Henniker. He had 20 years in the US Navy, after living in British Columbia.

Mark Mitch noted he has been in Henniker as a Professor at New England College as a member of the committee beginning in 2008. Mark was, and still is a member of the Economic Development Committee and the Conservation Committee.

Dina Pinnell is an experience Mechanical Engineer and had been with the committee in 2017. She has resources from work through energy efficiency over the past 14 years.

Rod Pimentel has been a member of the Henniker Selectboard, State representative for Energy and Science committees in the State House. He plans to be helpful in working at the town level.

Scott Osgood has been in Henniker since 1986, has been a member of the Planning Board, Conservation Committee and Selectboard member for six years. Has spent 35 years as a Construction Manager, and 12 years in planning and zoning in New Hampshire

Daniel Goodenough is a retired college professor with experience in anatomy, prostheses, cell biology and more. Has great concerns regarding Global Warming. He hopes to help changes of current climate change.

Dan has lived in Henniker for 12 years and is looking to help create the ZERO carbon footprint. Mentioned his home has solar panels and heat pumps to help minimize the carbon in his area.

Scott Osgood brought a tablet to include hearing the discussions for the board. Bill noted the user is required to notify the members of the tablet. All were notified.

Mike asked the board to confirm the correct board members for the committee offices. Rod mentioned that those who have done in the past should consider the position. With Scott as minute taker, this leaves 7 members, which was considered as the current membership.

Bill asked if Dina would consider the Chair. Information to her was to the length of the meetings, usually 1 hour monthly, doing posting for the website and managing the discussions during the meeting.

Dina agreed to take the position, 2nd confirmation by Rod Pimentel, and approved by the committee. Mike noted he would provide the necessary information for the management at the Chair. This would include sending out emails and phone calls and other discussions on the work of the board. Bill also noted he would help put any details for the board.

There was a request to ask A.J. to take the position of Vice Chair. A.J. agreed to accept the position. All members of the board approved.

The position of Secretary was requested by the board. This would include writing the meeting minutes. Dan Goodenough accepted the position. Dan noted the minutes would possibly be handwritten. AJ mentioned he would be inclined to help the process. Noted using audio recording would be helpful. Dan agreed to give the minutes, and also if someone else would take the minutes.

It was noted that minutes are to be sent to the public within 5 days. A group review would help the process.

The minutes for the December meeting were discussed submitted by Mike French. A motion to approve was raised, with a 2nd as per the existing, and approved.

Mike noted there is no agenda for the current meeting, It was agreed to use the initial unapproved a list of potential activities for consideration.

Dina began the activities for board discussion.

ITEM 1 - Solar

At the meetings of 2019 proposals were on the agenda. Discussion of the Solar PV system to offset the Towns municipal electricity use was discussed. It was discovered that the solar would increase costs and have less incentive. Mike noted that some information at the time was found to be incorrect.

Original material from three companies were in the past request. These are : Revision; Tru Enterprises, and Barrington Power. These were on the towns web site. Mark noted the issues were tabled after debates in 2019.

Dina noted current costs for residential use is at **\$0.22** kWh. Rod reiterated that the cost of Solar is increasing.

Mike wondered if batteries were being considered. He noted there was lots of new knowledge being introduced. The past costs were considered to be too expensive. He noted that there are different options available.

Mike noted through the committee review that all the costs were not included in the proposals. This made it looked even more expensive, which lead to a flawed decision.

Rod had asked for a review in the past for a Henniker Quote.

Mark stated that the location of the equipment was an issue. These included in the schools as well.

Mike asked for a motion to invest solar work for the Town. Dina asked there to be an RFP .
All members agreed to this action.

Mike recommended to create a subcommittee, not to start with the full group of this committee. Dina agreed to look over the request.

ITEM 2 LED Lighting

LED Lighting consideration for decorative street lamps. It is not decorative. Wiring is 110 , needs 220.

Mark questioned how to review locations from the bridge. Could find information in the website for past work. Dina asked to see who did the work. Mark noted that it is a lighting project. Bill noted many of the lights did get new lighting.

An energy audit was reviewed for new florescence lighting.

AJ and Bill looked to the power issue for 220 power. Mark noted the ballast would need to be checked as well.

Mike motioned to perform investigation for the existing road lighting in the downtown aera. Dina asked to see how the municipalities could be using the lighting as well. Considered asking a recent engineer to offer assistance. (Gordon ?)

Bill noted that lamppost needed maintenance as well.

ITEM 3 – EV Charging Stations

Next consideration is for EV Charging stations for the public use.

Mark noted that the Henniker/ Weare school district was provided two full electric school buses for the John Stark High School.

Rod mentioned that EV Charging stations are a hard sell for the travelling public. Many/most EV have charging stations at home. Providing cars driving to areas have not been determined along the State and Town roads.

The major questions are where the EV Stations can be installed, and by what entity, and at what daily and long terms costs. Consideration of local parking lots, along with restaurants or local businesses, especially grocery stores.

AJ asked where to confirm the costs. He noted that Tesla's are charged with no cost.

The group considered looking into the growth and placing the charges in towns and highways, and at local areas.

Dina noted she could check with EV accessibility through the Eversource now.

A motion was to be continued for the Committee look to installing EV Charging stations in Henniker.

Item 4.) Energy Savings (not including windows.)

- a. (Note: Fire Dept windows were not reviewed)
- b. Bill noted the windows in the community building are single pane. All are church glass is from the Methodist Church in the past.
- c. Community Center web access programmable thermostat for main hall. (Not considered.)

Doors at the Community Building need to be reviewed. The Town administration is working on that issue. Contractor Jason Paul agreed to review the needs.

Weatherization - Bill noted the heat in the community building does not work as best as it can. Noted that remote controls would improve the system . Also, a Heat/Cool study should be warranted.

A motion was made to provide an assessment on the operation of the Community Building heat and cooling equipment.

Rod stated he could help with the assessment. Dina stated she could consider use of an infrared camera to help.

- d. Send out poll to all departments asking for recommendation in other buildings.

Consideration of heat and cooling in other one building. This includes Police Station, (the existing one), and one to be built in the future, the Fire Station, Waste Water business building, the building at the Transfer Station. Noted that the Library would not be included, as it has had other successful funding and is a well-built building, from many years past.

- e. The building holding the Historical Society requires a great deal of work to make It worthwhile. New work includes upgrading electricity, insulation within the exterior walls and accessibility to the building. The committee will leave it on the list of required work.

This is the end of the list from December 18, 2022.

In the way of future interests, Mark suggested bringing in outside speakers to talk about the energy efficiency with the public. These would include weather issues, weatherization options, heat pumps and thermal systems.

AJ brought up the proposal for uses the flow of water in the rivers for energy uses. These would be very small scale hydroelectric, in the same piping ,with long end piping in the rivers. These could be worked and can provide small scale energy all year round, except for very low water.

AJ asked for a motion to research for small hydro in rivers.

Discussion for Wind Data. Noted the Town of Antrim has successful use of a number of large wind mills. Noted that local people do not appreciate the tall wind towers.

Discussion about next meeting.

Bill asked if the meeting could be in the Community Building. Noted the center looks to be open on the 4th Wednesday meeting time could be 6:00 PM, with all agreeing.
Will be considered.

February 22 , a Wednesday , will be considered. AJ noted he will confirm the change.

Motion to adjourn by Mike at 8:30 pm, seconded by Dina approved by all

Next meeting tentative February 22, 2023, at 6:00 pm Henniker Community Building & virtual ?

*Respectfully submitted,
D Scott Osgood, Minute Taker*