

Citizens' Energy Challenge Committee

Minutes of April 18,2018

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 pm

Present: Members Nicholas Solitro, Richard Galipeau, and Denise Stetson; Juliana Berry, Town Planner.

A motion was made by R. Galipeau, seconded by Stetson, to approve the minutes of February 21, 2018. All Ayes.

J. Berry updated the Committee on her discussion with National Grid about the use of the funds. The \$10,000 can be used for the PRISM street light replacement with LED bulbs or other energy efficient improvements. She also handed out a list of recommended improvements from the RISE energy audits that she had just obtained before the meeting. There was a list for each Town-owned building; Town Hall, Police, and DPW.

The Police station has a need for parking lot lighting. The group would like more information on how many, location, etc. There was also a question of the plan for the Town to build a new Police Station at another location because the estimate for the improvements at the current station was more than the grant (\$12,000-16,000).

The RISE energy audits were discussed. Galipeau noted that there is no return on investment payback listed in the audit, just the improvement items and their costs.

It was determined that to be able to make a recommendation to the Town at the May meeting, three things need to be clarified: 1.) RISE must provide a payback estimate for each measure including how much energy is saved and how many years it will take to see the return on investment. 2.) RISE must provide specification details on numbers of poles, fixtures, and the associated cost, and info from Chief Johnson on the minimum amount of lighting upgrades that would be acceptable. 3.) The Committee needs to know if any project can be financed above the \$10,000 grant award, either with National Grid or through the RI Infrastructure Bank.

N. Solitro asked about the Town's deadline to decide on a project. National Grid is planning an energy efficiency day in June to announce the results of the 2017 Energy Challenge, so the Town would like to have a project identified by then. J. Berry said that the funds should be available by the fall.

On a motion by N. Solitro, the meeting adjourned at 4:32 pm.

Attested to by Denise L. Stetson, Secretary