Lyme Energy Committee Meeting Monday, February 10, 2020 Approved Minutes

Present: Mark Bolinger; Matt Brown; Scott Nichols; Jim Nourse; Dan O’Hara; Kevin Sahr

Mark Bolinger called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm

1. Minutes from January 13, 2020 meeting: Kevin moved; Scott seconded. Minutes approved.
2. Final update on Warrant Article #22; final chance to strategize prior to Little and Big Town Meetings
   1. Selectboard supports the warrant article, 3-0. Jim will speak to the article at Little Town Meeting on March 3rd. Comments will focus on what the article hopes to do – to start the conversation with residents about sustainable energies, and to inform both our writing of the Energy section of Town’s Master Plan and the direction for town policies, especially in planning & zoning – town master plan (energy section); looking ahead to Weatherize & Solarize Lyme 2.0; underscore that the article does not tie town or individuals to any fiscal commitments.
3. Update on new fire station (generic)
   1. Lyme resident called Mark re: PV on fire station and the possibility of a 3rd party owned model. Suggested other ways to make this happen, including a loan from NH Community Development; the possibility of Lyme Fiber owning it (as they are already an LLC, and already in technology). These strategies would probably need the expertise of a tax lawyer.
   2. Fire station has moved tower to allow for PV eventually; added a bigger mechanical room with separate entrance; may be moving towards pellet boiler (propane back-up); hot water run off hot water heat pumps.
   3. Question is raised - who is driving the final design process? Select Board is not driving this project; Fire Chief and Rob Myer are developing, managing this project.
   4. Going out to bid for a construction manager; they have more detailed plans at this time.
   5. For future discussion – should Energy Committee add to the Energy Chapter of Master Plan that new municipal projects attain some TBD energy specs
   6. Scott will ask Mike to come to the next meeting to review plans/specs & give Energy Committee chance to ask questions.
4. Patty Jenks has pulled together "the oaths" that we all need to sign, and will leave them for us to take care of at this meeting
5. Town Garage: discussion of pellet-boiler history, and private fund raising for the pellet upgrade; adding shed to accommodate; impetus to add pellet (2000 planning; 2003 construction; 2005 hurricanes oil prices spiked). Selectboard will talk on Thursday about replacing the boilers with either pellets or propane. Kevin asks whether the Energy Committee would undertake fund-raising for replacing the current failing boilers to meet the difference if more expensive.  
     
   Other thoughts:
   * 1. Existing silo plus 40% state rebate for pellet; might look at ground source heat pumps
     2. What is the payback period for pellet over propane?
     3. Private fund-raising for difference between propane and pellet boilers
     4. Energy Committee favors staying with either pellet or another non-carbon source
6. Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm. Scott moved; Kevin seconded.