

## Northfield Energy Committee Meeting Notes from November 10, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

Attendance: Susan O'Connor, Jim VanNatta, Alex Strysky, Andrew Vernon, Judy Wagner, Kevin Seaman (PVRSD Facilities Director), Allison Gage (FRCOG)

### Agenda

Review Meeting Minutes from October 15, 2020: Andrew made a motion to accept, Jim seconded and all were in favor.

### Green Communities Annual report review by Allison Gage, FRCOG

- Susan will present highlights from this report to the Select Board, along with an update on Green Communities work Tuesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. if anyone wants to join in, let Andrea Llamas know.
- At NES we reduced energy use by 18% in 2018, and 4% more this year with the electrical work that was done.
- Overall energy reduction is 5% if you include the school, and without the school it increased by 4%.
  - Highway energy use has doubled since 2011, and that is because of increased use of wood. While it saves money, it actually increases the MMBtu's. We are still interested in going after another META grant to understand what to do.
  - Fire Department oil usage has gone up 108% since 2016. Jim will check in with them prior to the Nov. 17 report to see if they can explain how this happened. Susan will explore the idea of going ahead with weatherization or other strategies, given that a new building is quite a bit into the future.
  - Vehicle use has increased since 2018.
  - Street lights reduced by 50%.
  - Electricity down by 19%, probably due to electrical project

### Green Communities grant

- Andrea Llamas said the first 25% of the grant award has arrived.
- NES update: We were joined by Kevin Seaman, PVRSD Facilities Director
  - Scope of work and equipment specifications. Jim will meet with Kevin, do a walk through and review specifications we have so far to make sure Kevin is comfortable. Kevin feels good about Honeywell for things like aqua-stats. HRVs are Lifesbreath.
  - Procurement update: Jim and Susan met with Andrea Wood and Alyssa LaRose at FRCOG on November 5. Process is 2 months from start to finish.
    - Andrea will send along prevailing wage which we need to use.
    - What should be in base bid and alternate? This gives us room to accept a bid that may go over the amount we have allocated which is \$143,152. COVID is making everything more expensive. We need to reach out to Jane Pfister and Mark Rabinsky as well as Ben Weil to see if this is a good idea and which strategies could be listed as alternate. Kevin also mentioned that the town might have CARES funds that could be used for HRVs, but he would like pneumatics to go into base.
    - We also need to create a list of HVAC contractors that might be interested in bidding.
    - Andrea Llamas will need to ok scope. Then Andrea Wood posts official bid. Then there will be a mandatory walk through. Be sure to have a snow date for this. Next is a period for written questions that we respond to with an

addendum, followed by bids. We may want to get references from other towns.

- Access to the building: Kevin said the building can be available when students leave. There is a custodian on until 10:00 p.m. We will need to have a pre-bid walk through for contractors. Kevin said the Building Committee may have some smaller projects for the summer, and he expects it might be better to do this project in the summer, so we aren't changing out heating system in the middle of heating season. Jim will meet with Kevin soon for a walk through.
- Ideas for Clerk of the works. Members generated ideas of who we could contact in addition to speaking with:
  - River Strong, Clean Energy Extension, forwarded the job description to his network
  - Bob Dean sent to Energy Committee Network, with no relevant responses so far.
  - We hope to have someone and be able to do an interview and check references in December.
- Library ASHP
  - Alyssa LaRose at FRCOG is now trying to get the project expeditor list from Eversource from Joanne Bissetta or Jane Pfister at Green Communities. Susan will remind her. Susan will check with Andrea about option of dividing up labor and equipment so town handles this.

Updates on new business that comes up after agenda created

- Hazard mitigation. Alex and Judy drafted some information and wants committee to review and provide feedback by Monday, November 16.

Next meeting: December 8, 2020, 6:00 p.m.