

Williamsburg Energy Committee

Minutes for February 14, 2022

Members Present: Neal Anderson, Dick Guzowski, Mimi Kaplan, Adin Maynard, Jim Piermarini (Chair)

Called to Order: 5:35 PM

Minutes: Minutes from January 20 meeting approved unanimously (with amendment to correct typo).

Public Safety Complex Building: Guzowski reported on potential changes to the proposed method for heating the radiant slab in the equipment bay: the PSCBC voted on February 10 to pursue an oil-fired system for this purpose. Recognizing that there are special requirements and challenges of keeping the equipment bay at a stable and adequate temperature, the committee is concerned that potential alternatives — some that may be simultaneously less expensive, more effective, and more climate friendly — have not been sufficiently explored. The WEC drafted a letter encouraging exploration of all options for meeting the needs of the facility in a manner that is cost effective and that better aligns with Massachusetts decarbonization goals and Williamsburg's Green Communities commitments.

Annual Town Report: Piermarini outlined the text he is drafting on the Energy Committee's 2021 activities for the Annual Town Report, and will circulate a draft before submission.

Energy Committee Web Page Update: The Committee briefly discussed the long-overdue WEC web page update. Members will collect suggestions for discussion and decision on new content at the next meeting. This will include information for Town residents on MassSave Residential Energy Assessments & Audits.

Energy Aggregation Contract: Brief discussion surrounding the expiration of the town's energy aggregation contract with Dynegy (Energy Supplier), set for 4/30/22. Piermarini noted that the Colonial Power (Energy Supply Broker) contract is set to expire 1/15/23. Previously the WEC had recommended that the Town not simply renew with Colonial when that time comes, but instead consider an RFP to explore all available options for Energy Supply Brokers. The dissonance in the Supplier & Broker contracts may make this effort less impactful and/or more complicated, and Piermarini suggested that it may be in the Town's best interest to try and bring these two contract terms in closer alignment with one another. Piermarini agreed to follow up with the Town Administrator Caccamo to highlight these dates, relay WEC's recommendations to consider aligning contract terms, and offer dialogue with WEC if needed.

Other Business: Piermarini will follow up with Town Administrator Caccamo to (1) arrange an Energy Committee 'field trip' to the Highway Department garage to better understand concerns over energy usage at that facility, and (2) to inquire about status of Town Building audits both past (lighting with Commonwealth Electric, Retrocommissioning with B2Q) and future (B2Q's offer to conduct more in-depth audits of all Town Buildings with a focus on HVAC performance).

Adjourned: 6:45 PM.

Next Regular Meeting: Monday, March 14 at 5:30 PM.