

**TOWN OF DURHAM  
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**DURHAM ENERGY COMMITTEE  
Tuesday, July 6, 2010  
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, DURHAM TOWN HALL  
4:00 PM**

## **MINUTES**

### **I. Meeting called to order at 4:08 PM**

**Present:** Don Brautigam, Peter Ejarque, Kevin Gardner (Chair), Fil Glanz, Robin Mower (Town Council Rep.)

**Absent:** Dave Cedarholm (DPW Rep.), Mike Hoffman

**Guests:** none

### **II. Approval of Agenda**

### **III. Presentations**

A. Options regarding the Town's purchase of wholesale power- Emily Glick, Constellation Energy.

Ms. Glick is no longer available to meet with us. A number of members will schedule a time to meet instead with Peter Ingraham, also of Constellation Energy and based in Portland ME, at a non-meeting time. Kevin will send Mike a note asking him to follow up. We plan to get three proposals/bids on energy contracts and will recommend one of those, possibly after consultation with Bob Potter.

### **IV. Legislation (Local)**

A. PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) bond program and NH's HB1554 "allowing municipalities to establish energy efficiency and clean energy districts."

1. Robin and Kevin recently met with Todd Selig. Todd thought that Durham could do this directly since the Town Council form of government allows us to bond at any point during the year (we don't have to wait for a town meeting vote), and that there would be no problem with staff to handle the extra work load. But Todd requested that we have a good idea of how many will apply for this program so as to bond for just that amount.

(Other topics Kevin, Robin, and Todd talked about included: a) Natural gas as a cheaper source of heating fuel. Robin spoke with Unitil about a map of Durham gas lines, which does not exist for use outside Unitil, since it is subject to frequent change); b) Todd would like the DEC to conduct a study of more energy-efficient but cost-effective options for the Town's pool cars. Kevin will be speaking with Vaso Partinoudi--a former DEC member--about this as a summer project.

2. We will send out a query of interest in participating in PACE through the Friday Updates and (possibly) the Integrated Waste Management Committee Newsletter within the next two weeks with responses due by August 25. Steps for us include: a) determine how many projects and of what dollar value might be included in the first round; b) present the general concept to the Town Council and ask the Council to adopt the program; c) return to the Council with a request for the amount of money needed; d) when bonding is approved and projects are submitted for funding, we will have to keep track. Kevin and Robin will draft a Council statement for the September 13 Council meeting; Robin will prepare a note for the Friday Updates for July 16.

3. Note: The Code Enforcement Officer will be required to monitor all projects, as he does currently.

4. The separate, special tax assessment is based on payment over 20 years. That assessment remains attached to the property, not the owner, so that if a homeowner sells the property, he/she no longer is responsible for repayment although the homeowner will have received the benefit while living in the house.

B. Discussion of proposed zoning amendment to allow single-family homes and duplexes in the ORLI (?) zone as a conditional use and to allow single-family homes in the MUDOR(?) zone as a conditional use.

This zoning proposal was prompted by the potential development of land between Goss Technology and the Durham Cemetery for student housing of a structural type not currently allowed in the zoning ordinance. Our viewpoint has to do only with energy usage: Be sure units are close enough to encourage public transportation, biking, and be sure the units are energy efficient. We also want to be sure we don't spread out the town density too far in that area. Kevin will write a simple statement from the DEC to the Council for July 12 public hearing.

## **V. Master Plan**

A. Continue work on this: We completed the second "pillar." Kevin will email the revised draft to the Committee members

## **VI. Brief Updates**

A. Membership status: not discussed

B. Bike racks: Brief comments on bike rack at Wagon Hill and Mill Plaza.

VII. **Next meeting of the Committee:** August 9, 2010 at 7:30PM unless otherwise arranged