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# DURHAM ENERGY COMMITTEE Thursday, November 10, 2022 7:00 - 8:30 PM —Meeting Notes and Minutes—

## **Attendance:**

Present: Steve Holmgren, Mike Klein, Emily Friedrichs, Nat Balch, Townsend Zwart

Present virtually: Jim Lawson

Absent: Jack Lannaman, Ti Crossman, Bianca Leornard Matt Davis

Others Present Virtually: Jerry Pucillo, Todd Selig

# **Discussion with Jerry Pucillo**

Jim Lawson introduced Jerry Pucillo and provided information about his expertise with sustainable and energy efficient commercial development. He also noted Mr. Pucillo's involvement with the 74 Main Street project in Durham.

Mr. Pucillo described the 74 Main Street project and its focus on sustainability. He explained it would be the second building in New Hampshire to use an energy efficient wood envelope. The first building using this technology was at Pease.

There was discussion about air exchange and heat recovery in a tight building and the use of heat pumps and geothermal. Mr. Pucillo talked about the payback opportunity for sustainable designs as technology improves and the opportunity for sustainable improvements during renovations. He provided his opinion about LEED certifications, and his opinion that you should look at the best technologies across multiple certifications.

Emily Friedrichs noted the focus on air quality, and ze provided a number of examples of air quality issues and challenges. Mr. Pucillo discussed this and said they were focusing on air filtration at 74 Main Street for those reasons. There was discussion about market dynamics and whether commercial property owners will invest in sustainability when there tenants pay for energy. Mr. Pucillo noted that if you were doing a major full renovation then you would have to adhere to the new energy codes and standards. Emily Friedrichs asked if Mr. Pucillo was aware of any new developments that installed the infrastructure for geothermal even if it wasn't initially used. Mr. Pucillo reviewed the types

of geothermal, and said vertical systems [wells] are not that difficult to install after a project is completed. There was more discussion about geothermal and geothermal financial paybacks.

# Approval of the Agenda

Nat Balch noted that with Emily Friedrichs arrival at the meeting there now was a quorum. Members present approved Jim Lawson's virtual participation and the agenda was approved.

### **Solar Ordinance**

Jim Lawson discussed the draft letter to the Town Council he had distributed to the committee recommending that the Large Scale Utility and Group Net-Metering systems be allowed in the MUDOR and ORLI districts. Todd Selig said he was a little surprised that the Planning Board wanted to pull-back on these two uses in these districts and there was discussion. Jim Lawson made a Motion to send the proposed letter to the Town Council. The motion was seconded by Steve Holmgren. Members voted individually on the Motion and it passed unanimously.

# **Thermal Imaging**

Jim Lawson discussed his recent experience using thermal imaging at his house, and how it identified a ceiling that had no insultation. There was a discussion about how this technology could be offered and used in the community. Mike Klein volunteered to try the Thermal Imaging at his home and report back to the Committee.

# **General Reports**

Community Power – Jim Lawson said a request was sent to Eversource for usage data 10 days after the Energy Aggregation Plan was approved by the Public Utilities Commission. He said that the proposed Cost Sharing Agreement was being reviewed by a working group that Mr. Selig had established.

Emily Friedrichs talked about the work being done by the Planning Board on housing, and said it was relevant to bring it up to other committees about how it would fit into our Master Plan. Ze provided examples that were being discussed that the Energy Committee could consider providing input. Nat Balch suggested that the committee should bring in Audrey Cline to discuss the Building Code. Jim Lawson said this was more of a community planning effort, and that is under the auspices of the Planning Board. He said that if the committee didn't understand what the Planning Board was doing, then we could lose opportunities to provide input. There was more discussion, and Emily Friedrichs would provided an update on the Planning Board's work on the ordinance change at the December meeting.

### Minutes

Jim Lawson made a motion to approve the minutes of September 6, 2022 as presented. The motion was seconded by Nat Balch and approved unanimously by individual vote.

Townsend Zwart made a motion to approve the minutes of October 18, 2022 as presented. The motion was seconded by Nat Balch and approved unanimously by individual vote with Emily Friedrichs abstaining because she was not present.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43PM