



TOWN OF DURHAM
8 Newmarket Road
Durham, NH 03824-2898
603.868.8064
www.ci.durham.nh.us

DURHAM ENERGY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, December 6, 2022
7:00 – 8:30 PM
—Minutes—

Attendance:

Present: Jim Lawson, Jack Lannaman, Bianca Leornard, Steve Holmgren, Nat Balch, Matt Davis; Ti Crossman

Present virtually: Emily Friedrichs, Mike Klein

Absent: Townsend Zwart

Others Present: None

Members approved the remote participation of members Mike Klein and Emily Friedrichs. Jack Lannaman made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Nat Balch and approved unanimously.

Jim Lawson briefly discussed Community Power and said committee members should expect questions from the community as Durham moves forward. He thought it would be a good idea to provide the committee a debrief on Community Power and CPCNH at the January meeting.

Discussion on the Housing Amendments and Energy Committee Recommendations

Jim Lawson noted Emily Friedrichs had done much of the preparation for this meeting, and would be leading a discussion about zoning, the Master Plan and the Planning Board's work. He said this would be an opportunity for the Energy Committee to provide input to the Planning Board as they work on the housing ordinance.

Emily Friedrichs started her presentation by reviewing the state RSAs that allowed local zoning and defined how zoning should be designed at the local level. She reviewed Durham's zoning's purpose and the three themes of the Master Plan and its Energy Chapter, then provided additional information about zoning and site plans. She explained the ways zoning can be amended and how the Energy Committee can have input into the zoning process, and highlighted the zoning sections currently under review.

Ze then reviewed several areas that the Energy Committee could provide input on, highlighting the Master Plan goal and providing information and recommendations on each.

Outside Lighting – It's high energy consumption versus the goal of energy efficiency for new construction and renovation. A recommended zoning change was presented and discussed.

Reuse of a building to reduce greenhouse emissions compared to new construction – Embodied versus operation emissions were explained. Reuse of a building results in up to an 85% reduction in embodied emissions. The benefit of this reductions versus the additional community benefits of new construction were discussed.

Unnecessary high energy use when cost is not an issue – The example of radiant outdoor surfaces was discussed.

EV Vehicle Charging – Making EV charging wiring required in new construction or when a building permit is issued for an existing structure was discussed. As part of this discussion, Jack Lannaman noted the increasing demand for the Pettee Brook charging stations in the area where there are not single-family homes. He noted there is a need for charging 24 hours a day in this area, but the regulations do not allow overnight parking. There was discussion about changing the parking ordinance.

General Reports

Matt Davis said he didn't have anything to report on UNH activities, but that he had watched the last meeting on DCAT and would be looking for resources at UNH that might assist with video production. There was discussion about the high value of this type of assistance. There was also discussion about collaborating with UNH for Earth Day. Mr. Davis suggested reaching out to Tom Kelly and the Sustainability Institute.

Mike Klein reviewed his experience with thermal imaging and how it identified an area without insulation. His neighbors were excited about using it and identified issues. There was discussion about how someone should proceed when an issue is identified. Jack Lannaman will use the camera next.

Steve Holmgren provided an update on Community Power.

Jack Lannaman said there was lots of use of the EV chargers last month. He reviewed the financials and said the chargers provided 1.5 MWH of energy saving 1,068 KG of greenhouse gas. Jack reviewed the options for better managing the library charging station and reviewed his discussions with the library staff.

Jack Lannaman noted that Emily Friedrichs had more slides and information that ze did not present. Jim Lawson said he didn't know that and apologized. Emily Friedrichs asked the committee if there should be a motion about whether there is interest about looking more

closely at the housing ordinance and making recommendations to the Planning Board. Jim Lawson said that a motion was not necessary, and asked Emily if the ordinance would be going into the spring. Ze said Michael Behrendt was optimistic that it could be voted on in March, but ze thought it would take more time than that since there have been a lot of comments from the public. There was discussion about setting up a working group and a consensus that the discussion should be continued in January. Emily will be mailing the presentation to members.

Jack Lannaman thanked Emily.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02.