

TOWN OF BEDFORD
April 28, 2016
ENERGY COMMISSION MINUTES

ROLL CALL: A meeting of the Bedford Energy Commission was held on Thursday, April 28, 2016 at the Bedford Meeting Room, 10 Meetinghouse Road. Present: Chris Bandazian (Town Council), Bill Foote, Kevin Flynn, Matthew Pitaro (Alternate), and Christine Donati (Alternate).

Councilor Bandazian called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and introduced the members of the commission. Shana Potvin (Vice Chairman), Rob Grogan (Chairman), Jim Aguiar (Town Council Alternate), Andrew Gillis, and Courtney Gray (Alternate) were absent.

Town Projects:

a. Status of Library HVAC:

Councilor Bandazian reviewed several images posted on the screen of the work being performed on the HVAC at the library. He stated all 20 wells have been drilled at 25 feet apart, and the area shown in the photo is scheduled to become additional parking lot for the library in 2022. Also shown is the mechanical room with the water exchangers that have been installed. Other work performed is all the duct work has been cleaned and the furnace has been removed. Next week they will be working in the downstairs where many of the heat pumps are in the ceiling, and most of the work will not interfere with the public as they are working the very early morning hours. There is a little bit of excavation work that will be required in the parking lot, and the carpeting and walkway have been deferred until the work on the HVAC has been completed. Mr. Foote asked when they anticipate completion of the project. Councilor Bandazian replied if everything is in when it is supposed to be, the project should be completed in August.

b. Legislative Updates:

i. HB 1116

Councilor Bandazian stated HB 1116 is the net metering bill. The bill has been approved and signed by the Governor. This will double New Hampshire's net metering capacity and should be good for a couple of years.

ii. SB 492

Councilor Bandazian stated SB 492 is the bill that dealt with RGGI funds, of which Bedford received \$387,000 for the library work. The bill was asking for an increase from

\$2 million to \$5 million in grant monies, but it was laid on the table. I'm not sure why, but all Bedford legislative members voted in favor of tabling.

c. Transfer Station Recycling:

A spreadsheet of recycling numbers was posted. Councilor Bandazian stated the numbers are going up and down. We are showing numbers below where we had been the past two years. Single stream is below where it was in 2015 and 2014, scrap metal is down but that could be timing of when it is picked up, but the overall tonnage is up. In March of this year we had 761 tons of solid waste, where 2015 was 554, and 2014 was 467, so we are climbing in municipal solid waste.

2016 Focus Areas: No discussion.

Branding / Marketing and Town Website / Facebook Page Updates:

Councilor Bandazian stated the Town's new website is moving along slowly.

Portfolio Manager:

a. Solid Waste:

Councilor Bandazian stated the EPA is adding solid waste modules and holding webinars for training. If we were to input Bedford's information, it would create graphics and our numbers would become part of a national database. It would be good if someone were interested in doing that.

Mr. Pitaro asked if anyone was working on inputting the electric numbers for the Town. Councilor Bandazian replied no; that is one of our goals. Historically this has been problematic because we have 53 different electric bills, and there is no one within Town departments that has the time to do this. Maybe it could be done in a limited capacity, maybe we could pick up the major buildings, and if we are selective, it might be more manageable, and we could possibly include school district buildings as well. Mr. Foote stated I think the schools have that information at their fingertips. Mr. Pitaro stated Rob had talked about having students inputting the information in. Councilor Bandazian stated we could discuss that next month. If we were able to do this, we could identify the buildings within the Town that need the most attention.

School Projects:

a. School / PTG Outreach:

Mr. Foote stated at the last meeting we talked about integrating Keep America Beautiful in the schools. I checked on this and it appears that there is nothing available to move forward with at this time.

- b. Student Reps: No discussion.

HAREI Partnership & Events:

- a. Planned Energy Raisers: No discussion.

Bedford Green Business of the Month:

- b. Nomination of Beals Insurance Agency:

Councilor Bandazian stated I emailed with Steve Beals and asked him if he would be interested in coming to one of our meetings to talk about his building. He has readapted a burned post and beam building into his office. He is happy to come in. I will have Ms. Potvin prepare an award and have him attend our next meeting.

Old Business: None

Approval of Minutes:

Approval of minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

New Business:

- a. Energy Commission Organizational Update:

Councilor Bandazian stated this Commission has existed for seven years, and I feel it is time to adopt some rules of procedures and update the membership layout. I would propose to the Town Council that the Commission be made up of 9-members, all regular members, no alternates, where a quorum would be five members or more. The regular members would have 3-year staggered terms, as they do now, and the governing body members (Town Council and School District) would hold 1-year terms. The first step would be for me to bring this before the Town Council for approval and then we could adopt our rules of procedure. We can continue this discussion at the next meeting when the Chairman and Vice Chairman are present.

Adjournment:

MOTION by Mr. Pitaro to adjourn at 7:36 pm. Ms. Donati duly seconded the motion. Vote taken - all in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by
Valerie J. Emmons