**FRANCONIA ENERGY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**June 16, 2016; 3:00 pm**

In attendance: Fitz, Karen F, Chip Stowle, Dave Strange, Bob Tortorice

Streetlight Conversion to LED

Randy Perkins, Account Executive Strategic Accounts, joined our meeting to answer our questions and advise how best to proceed. The following points came to light:

* Many towns in NH are doing this or planning to do this: Lancaster, Whitefield, Stratford.
* Fitz asked about the possibility of lower lumen power in the LEDs to lessen light pollution. Randy said that LED lighting is downward directional and therefore casts less light pollution.
* Tie a ribbon around the poles with a light that will be shut off. Let towns people know what we’re doing. Confer with police. Keep intersection lights on.
* The balance of lights left on will be converted to LED. The vendor takes care of removal of old fixture and disposal, and the installation of the new LED.
* Randy estimates a cost of $300 per fixture to install. Eversource gives a $100 per fixture incentive in the form of a rebate. (Incentive money is limited; apply in late 2016 for 2017 funding.)
* Randy will calculate a benchmark savings analysis – existing HPS vs new LED. There is a 2 to 2 1/2 year payback.
* Randy will send us a list of active vendors; including Rays Electric, Royal Electric, Affinity.
* Randy will send us a sample RFP to use to go out to bid. We will adapt the bid document and show it to Randy who will review for completeness before we send out.
* We should be ready to give Randy a proposal by the end of Sept/early Oct 2016 in order to be eligible for the rebate commitment for 2017. “Pending a town meeting vote” is fine to insert.
* We should line up financing (loan through NH CDFA) or funding through town appropriation.
* To save money, the town should supply traffic control during the installation.
* It is a requirement that we purchase a few extra cobra heads to have as spares in case of damage.
* Randy will do a quality control inspection when the installation is finished.
* We might ask if Sugar Hill wants to participate with Franconia on this project to improve the economy of scale pricing.

When Randy left the meeting, we called Sally’s office to get on the Select Board’s agenda for June 20 or 27, to be confirmed. We plan to explain the project to the Selectmen and get their concurrence for us to proceed, and ask them how best can we notify the towns people about shutting off specific streetlights.

Other Business

* Fitz spoke with Sally about the Town’s power contract. She handles it and the supplier has stopped calling Fitz.
* Bob reported that the State has initiated a potential requirement for energy audits to be done prior to the sale of a home. Bob has applied to be a certified inspector for this program. Home Inspection Services-HIS.
* The committee decided to continue meeting throughout the summer in order to keep up the momentum on the streetlight project. We encouraged everyone to attend if they are able, knowing that a few of us may not. But if we are to make the Eversource deadline for a proposal, we have to keep working.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30.