

Joint Meeting of the Water & Sewer Commission And the Electric Utility Commission Meeting Minutes, January 7, 2019

Roll Call: Commissioners Dennis Donahue, Steve Fitzhugh, Julie Goodrich, Ken Goslant. Others present: Town Manager Jeff Schulz, Utility Superintendent Pat Demasi, Debra Zuaro, Joe Zuaro, and Jonathon Spencer. The meeting started at 6:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes from Previously Meeting

Motion by Dennis Donahue, second by Julie Goodrich to approve the minutes of November 5, 2018. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Meeting of the Electric Commission

EV Charging Stations

Steve Fitzhugh and Jeff Schulz are working on a grant application to obtain funding for an electric vehicle fast charging station in Northfield located near the downtown area. There are two grant application periods: November 30 and April 1. It was agreed to wait until the April 1 period to increase the chances of obtaining funding based upon the large number of anticipated grant applications in November.

Cheney Farm Solar Project

In anticipation of the Select Board placing a non-binding article on the Town ballot to gauge public opinion the potential for a utility size solar projection on the Cheney Farm, the Electric Commission discussed/reviewed possible wording for the ballot item. Mr. Spencer asked if the Commission was recommending to the Select Board the use of the wording prepared by Mr. LaVarnway which was endorsed by a petition with several hundred signatures. The Commission discussed and recommended modifications to Mr. LaVarnway's wording to included adding: the acreage of the area of the solar panels which is approximately 6 acres, power generation of the project, and that it is located at the entrance to the Cheney Farm.

Other Business

Steve Fitzhugh updated the Commission on the proposed agreement between Northfield Electric and GMP regarding GMP's interconnection into Northfield's system to better serve GMP's customers, a portion of which are Northfield residents. Steve noted that the agreement is currently being further reviewed by GMP's legal department.

Meeting of Water and Sewer Commission

Stormwater Issues

Jeff Schulz updated the Commission on the South Main Street Stormwater and Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) elimination project stating that the engineer is nearing completion of the planning phase of the project. As discussed previously, the project will include the upgrade of the stormwater line on South Main Street and stormwater lines and stormwater treatment basins in the Slate Ave, Highland Ave., Prospect Ave. and Elm Street neighborhoods. 50% of the planning study is being funded through a grant from the State of Vermont. The goal of the project is to eliminate the CSO near East Street and further reductions of stormwater into the sewage treatment.

Motion by Dennis Donahue, second by Julie Goodrich to adjourn the Joint Meeting of the Electric Commission and the Water/Sewer Commissions. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Jeff Schulz, Town Manager