

**Draft Minutes Tamworth Energy Committee
October 2, 2023 Cook Memorial Library 3:00 pm**

Call to Order: 3:04

Present: Gabrielle Watson, Ted Morgan, John Kumm, Ellen Farnum, David Kunhardt (remote) **Guest:** Rick Moreau, Head of Tamworth Building Maintenance

Minutes from September 18, 2023

Minutes approved unanimously.

Button-Up Workshop on September 19: insights and next steps:

The Button-Up workshop with guest speaker Ted Stiles contained lots of practical information. TEC members have received enthusiastic response from the attendees. Even though the workshop was well publicized, participation was a bit low. (24 people participated in the Sept. 18th session).

Some suggestions for the future:

- Build attendance by working on an email/phone list so that TEC members can reach out directly to interested folks,
- Continue to offer a remote link that can be recorded and shared afterwards.
- Ask Union Hall to co-sponsor future events: they might help draw a different audience.

Energy Audit Report from Resilient Building Group

Resilient Buildings Group (RBG) conducted a site visit of the Tamworth Town Office building. During the audit, RBG examined the building's shell and all other pertinent building systems and made recommendations. The report was received on September 20th. Rick Moreau, Tamworth Building Maintenance Supervisor, reviewed the report with Tamworth Energy Committee members. (See report)

*Note: this analysis does not include tax credits, utility rebates from NH Saves or potential money from the Inflation Reduction Act.

Discussion of the Audit and Recommendations:

The following measures will be recommended to the Tamworth Select Board on Thursday October 5th:

- Air seal and insulate attic floor. This measure would pay for itself in about 8.9 years. (see report: B1)
- Add duct work insulation: this measure has a relatively low cost and would pay for itself in 12.6 years. (See report: M3)
- Re-evaluate air quality/air flow after the insulation is added (see above recommendations).
- Consult with other HBAC professionals or perhaps an Industrial Hygienist about air circulation/air quality measures.

Potential Future Actions:

~Since the Tamworth Town Office currently has 3 gas fired furnaces, all functioning well, the TEC does not recommend replacing with a Heat Pump at this time. However,

this measure could be considered in the future when the present system begins to fail. (See Report M1)

~The town currently has a functioning water heater. The TEC does not recommend replacing the unit with an electric water heater with a heat pump. This measure could be considered in the future when the present system begins to fail. (See report, M2)

~ The building currently has no mechanical ventilation. A solution would be to install an ERV (Energy Recovery Ventilator) to bring fresh air into the building. Further research is needed to find out the cost and placement of ERV unit(s)

~ Consider installing a 4.8kw Solar Electric System. The west facing roof on the Tamworth Office Building is optimal for a roof-mounted solar. (See Report R1 EEM)

Selectboard Meeting:

Gabrielle will discuss the energy audit at the next Selectboard meeting. She will also suggest the town join Clean Energy NH so that we can attend valuable workshops and information sessions.

CPCNH:

The town of Tamworth has now been formally accepted by CPCNH, and a request has been made for the aggregated electric customer data from Eversource. Data from the Low Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHAP) has also been requested.

John has set the dates and times for the two required hearings and has arranged a time to practice the technology needed for the Zoom link. TEC will do further planning at our next meeting.

Hearing Dates:

October 17th at 7:00 pm at the Tamworth Town House

November 29th at 3:00 pm at the Tamworth Town House

To Do:

Gabrielle:

~Confirm CPCNH representatives Henry Herndon and/or Andrew Hatch will be available to attend the meeting.

~Create a poster to advertise the Hearings.

~post the meetings on the Tamworth website and in newsletter,

~ bring information sheet to the hearing,

~Review and plan the slide show with Ted,

~Attend Tech practice session with Ellen at the Town House on Monday, October 16th at 9:00 am

Ted:

~Review and plan the slideshow with Gabrielle.

Ellen:

~Borrow OWL and projector,

~Attend the tech practice session with Gabrielle at the Town House on Monday, October 16th at 9:00 am

Brett School Energy Audit:

The Brett School has requested an energy audit through Eversource. Eversource has pre-approved auditors who have contacted both Gabrielle and school board member Dexter Harding.

John and Ted have agreed to be the Tamworth Energy Committee contacts as this audit moves forward.

Eco-Solar

Gabrielle has been contacted by a company eager to develop solar projects for municipal and school buildings. This could be an economical alternative for our municipal leadership to consider. David will contact Eco Solar, gather information and report back to our group.

Gabrielle:

Forward email from Stephanie Eggers to David

Next Scheduled Meeting: October 16, 2023 Cook Library, 3 pm

Possible Agenda items:

1. Selectboard Meeting: (Energy Audit)
2. Continued planning for CPCNH Hearings
3. Zack Remick, First Responder: preparedness needs for EV future
4. Review Community Conversation from September 27th: insights and next steps
5. EV Expo initial planning and next steps (contact car dealerships, propose dates to CMI)
6. Energy Committee web page: update ideas, key documents, revisit Ted's earlier suggestion for content.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:40 pm

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