Meeting Minutes
Saco Energy & Sustainability Committee
August 30, 2016

Present: Howard Carter, Andrew Goldberg, Rick Millard, James Ferguson, Jackie McDonough, Eric Cote, Bruce Cote, Brad Paul, Charlie Cotsis, Ron Michaud, Cheryl Fournier, Bill Mann, Pat Fox

Natural Gas Expansion Update
- Update given by Pat Fox
- Unitil crew currently boring under railroad tracks on Industrial Park Road
- Natural gas line from railroad tracks to route one will be live soon
- Unitil has around thirty to fifty new natural gas customers currently in the Saco area

Police Department Heating System Update
- Update given by Bruce Cote
- On June 29, 2016 three bids to convert the Saco police department from oil to natural gas were received (Eastern Mechanical, Jim Godbout Plumbing and Heating and Mechanical Services)
- Mechanical Services presented an alternate bid to provide and install one Webster Dual Fuel Burner for the existing H.B. Smith 28A-W-10 heating boiler at a cost of $17,650
- The Saco police department is interested in the alternate bid which keeps the current oil burner and adds a natural gas burner to give the option to use whichever fuel is less expensive
- Erik Norman of Mechanical Services sent an e-mail to Bruce Cote on July 1, 2016 that in part advised that their bid included a stamped drawing by a Maine Professional Engineer which is required by law for any unit with a capacity over 200,000 BTU’s
- Brad Paul said the Mechanical Services alternate bid savings is substantial, the twenty year old boiler at the police department is still in good shape, dual burner option cost is under $18,000 and may be the best value for the city
- Police department would like to upgrade their HVAC system; Mechanical Services presented a bid for this as well: Provide and install a replacement condensing unit for the McQuay Split System (HVAC) at a cost of $67,250
- Brad Paul mentioned that the police department HVAC system is approaching twenty years of age
- Andrew Goldberg said if the police department signs a contract for natural gas to make sure there isn’t a minimum purchase obligation, especially if the police department is going to switch between oil and natural gas
- Cheryl Fournier mentioned the Targeted Area Build-Out (TAB) program has a surcharge
- Under the TAB program, customers located in specifically defined geographic areas of Saco will pay a monthly TAB surcharge for a ten-year period rather than a larger, upfront contribution in aid of construction payment
• Pat Fox said there’s a meter charge per month, summer rate and winter rate with Unitil
• Brad Paul mentioned that the generator at the police department runs off of diesel and they spend less than $200 a year for diesel fuel, Andrew Goldberg thinks it should be converted to run off of natural gas
• Rick Millard and Howard Carter think that the decision to use either oil or natural gas should be made seasonally by the police department
• Ron Michaud was wondering if Mechanical Services has any customers that have dual fuel burner systems, Brad Paul said the police department will look into it
• Brad Paul would like an engineering firm to look over the bid plan
• Bill Mann has emailed Richard Nadeau of Stantec regarding an engineer review, will have Richard Nadeau connect with Bruce Cote regarding the police department heating system

Saco Middle School Parking Lot Lighting
• Update given by Pat Fox
• Middle school parking lot lighting project is complete, Ed Profenno installed LED lights last week

Building LED Conversion Update
• Update given by Pat Fox
• Parks and recreation and city hall still need LED conversion
• Ed Profenno looked at parks and recreation lighting, will have cost of $40,000 for LED lights but will receive $20,000 in rebates from Efficiency Maine
• Andrew Goldberg said city should write a letter to Efficiency Maine to allow NorthEast Electrical Distributors to receive LED light rebates, more buying power because NorthEast Electrical Distributors would receive the rebate which means a lower cost from NorthEast Electrical Distributors to the city

Sustainability Plan
• Update given by Bill Mann
• Intern at city hall was working on revisions to the comprehensive plan, made some progress
• Hired Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission (SMPDC) to assist in the preparation of the sustainability plan

Train Station Heating System
• Update given by Pat Fox
• Lowest electricity bill by far in twelve months, 38% drop in electric use

Scarborough Town Hall Tour
• Did not address at this meeting

Wind Turbine Update
• Eric Cote spoke to Mike Ireland of Larkin Enterprises regarding the city’s wind turbine and was informed that the present turbine is outdated
• Nathan Johnson is continuing his wind turbine research
• Bill Mann suggested putting cell phone transmitters in tower as an adaptive reuse of the structure
• If wind turbine is removed, Pat Fox would like to see a park area with a gazebo

New Business
• Consider HVAC engineering review at building 91 and Saco police department

Action Items
• Police department to contact Mechanical Services and inquire about customers that currently have dual fuel burner systems
• Bill Mann to have Richard Nadeau from Stantec connect with Bruce Cote regarding police department heating system
• Jackie McDonough to look into heating degree days for fuel usage

Next meeting September 27, 2016