Meeting Minutes
Saco Energy & Sustainability Committee
September 27, 2016

Present: Pat Fox, Jackie McDonough, Bruce Cote, Charlie Cotsis, Ron Michaud, Cheryl Fournier, Alex Mouzas, Joe Hirsch

Natural Gas Expansion Update
- Update given by Pat Fox
- Unitil crew is almost done with side street connections to Main Street
- Expecting the majority of natural gas connections, both commercial and residential, will happen next year
- Conversions to natural gas are most likely influenced by oil prices, increase in new natural gas customers expected as oil prices rise
- Public works doesn’t plan on refinishing roads until after next year’s natural gas connections are completed
- High Street will have natural gas available soon
- Areas around C.K. Burns School and Thornton Academy will have natural gas available next year
- Industrial Park Road natural gas lines went live last week
- Unitil’s 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
- There is a natural gas meter charge per month as well as a summer rate and winter rate with Unitil
- Unitil website with information on Saco natural gas expansion: unitil.com/saco
- Can switch to natural gas without replacing existing oil boiler or furnace, a conversion burner makes this possible by replacing only the oil burner on the current equipment, fees as low as $23.95 per month to convert oil boiler or furnace

Police Department Heating System Update
- Update given by Bruce Cote
- Police Department agreed to hire a company to do an engineering survey regarding the cost efficiency of converting from oil to natural gas
- A contract to perform the engineering survey has been signed and Bruce Cote would like to see the survey completed by the end of this year
Mini Split Installation at the Fire Department
- Update given by Pat Fox
- Looking to install a mini split at the fire station to control the temperature in the server room
- Ryan Pinheiro of the city of Saco IT department has not yet received quotes for the mini split, will revisit next meeting

Building LED Conversion Update
- Update given by Pat Fox
- Building LED conversions are typically winter projects
- Parks and recreation went over their electricity budget by $7,000 last year, therefore there is a strong need for LED conversion at this department
- Parks and recreation lighting will have a cost of $40,000 for LED lights but will receive $20,000 in rebates from Efficiency Maine
- Ed Profenno, the city’s in-house electrician, is currently busy working on multiple electrical projects, the city should consider hiring an outside contractor for parks and recreation LED conversion
- Parks and Recreation LED conversion should be finished around February 2017

Sustainability Plan
- Did not address at this meeting

Scarborough Town Hall Tour
- Did not address at this meeting

Review of Hannaford's Energy Procurement
- Did not address at this meeting

Wind Turbine Update
- Did not address at this meeting

Action Items
- Ron Michaud to contact Nathan Johnson and Eric Cote to inform them that they must make a decision on the future of the wind turbine by the next energy meeting in October
- Joe Hirsch to ask Kelly Fowler of Unitil for residential natural gas pricing information
- Follow up with Ryan Pinheiro regarding fire station mini split quote

Next meeting October 25, 2016