

**Joint Meeting of the Water & Sewer Commission
And the Electric Utility Commission
Meeting Minutes, April 2, 2018**

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

Approval of Minutes from Previously Meetings

Motion by Julie Goodrich, second by Dennis Donahue, to approve the minutes of March 19, 2018. **Motion passed 3-0.**

Meeting of the Electric Utility Commission

Cabot Hosiery Electric Incentive Program

As a follow-up to the last Utility Commission Meeting, Jeff Schulz provided the Commission copies of electric incentives programs from Burlington Electric and Enosburg which offer discounted electric rates for large customers. Jeff provided the documents to the Commission as part of the discussion of Cabot's plans to double production at their Northfield facility, and Cabot's request for NED to consider a program/agreement to offer Cabot discounted power. The Commission appeared open to the concept, however, wanted additional information regarding the amount of the potential increased power usage, the duration and time frames, and Cabot's expansion plans. Jeff agreed to pass the request to the Cabot's representatives.

Northfield's Energy Future Committee

There exists a local committee (independent of local government) of four to five Northfield residents that are concerned about a lack of progress by the Federal and State government on climate change and energy independence issue, and wish to work on these issues at the local level. As part of that effort, the Committee wishes to conduct a series of workshops involving local officials, and other groups and individuals that are involved in local energy issues. I gave the Committee a general overview of the current efforts in Northfield, including the work of the Utility Commission, VPPSA and Regional Planning. Steve Fitzhugh offered to attend one the Committee's meetings to further discuss current local energy efforts.

FY 18/19 Electric Budgets

The Commission continued its discussion of the FY 18/19 budget. The Commission agreed to add \$10,000 to the budget for tree trimming. Steve Fitzhugh noted that Town is still waiting for the power forecasts from VPPSA.

Steve added that VPPSA is currently considering joining the Joint Action Coalition; which will provide VPPSA members cybersecurity and IT support, further cloud solutions (CIS, GIS, SCADA, analytics), smart grid technology consulting, and advance metering infrastructure support. This new program will assist Northfield in processing data and in the purchase of meters and equipment for smart meters in Northfield. The addition of this program should allow Northfield to install smart meters within the next 18 months.

Other Business

Steve added that VPPSA is working on web-site assistance to VPPSA members such that VPPSA will design and maintain a site for each member that will be linked from the communities' web-site.

Patrick Demais suggested that the Commission consider purchasing the vacant house next to the King Street sub-station for access and possible expansion of sub-station. The home on the lot is vacant and was recently sold at tax sale. The Commission suggested reviewing the status the property.

Motion by Dennis Donahue, second by Steve Fitzhugh to adjourn the Electric Commission meeting. **Motion passed 3-0.**

Meeting of the Water and Sewer Commission

The Water and Sewer Commissioners agreed to hold a special meeting on April 16 to work on the FY 18/19 Water and Sewer budgets.

Motion by Dennis Donahue, second by Julie Goodrich to adjourn the Sewer and Water meeting. **Motion passed 3-0.**

Jeff Schulz, Clerk