

**Joint Meeting of the Water & Sewer Commission  
And the Electric Utility Commission  
Meeting Minutes, May 8, 2019**

**Roll Call:** Commissioners Dennis Donahue, Steve Fitzhugh, Dave Maxwell, Nathaniel Miller. Others present: Town Manager Jeff Schulz; Utility Superintendent Pat Demasi; VPPSA representatives Steve Farman and Shawn Enterline; Northfield Resident Sarah Wolfe. The meeting started at 6:30 PM.

**Approval of Minutes from Previously Meeting**

Motion by Dave Maxwell, seconded by Nathaniel Miller, to approve the minutes of April 24, 2019. **Motion passed 4-0.**

**Meeting of the Electric Commission**

**Integrated Resource Plan**

Steve Fitzhugh stated that he is working with VPPSA on the required update of NED's Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) which must be submitted to the Public Utility Commission by May 21, 2019. The IRP is divided into two parts with part one documenting the source of NED's power purchases and part two the system transmission and distribution.

Next, Sean Farman stated that he is working on the energy forecasting section of the plan and that the future energy demand for Northfield and all VPPSA members is very stable. Northfield and the other VPPSA members get their power through multiple contracts administered through VPPSA, and there is currently a 10% gap in the supply (which is an acceptable range), and that VPPSA works to limit the gap to 5%. There are several future supply issues that will need addressing which include the ending of two nuclear power contracts and meeting the VT Renewable Energy Requirements of 75% renewable energy sources by 2035. The renewable energy gap can be met through the distribution of renewable energy from sources throughout Vermont and from projects similar to the Bone Hill project.

Next, Steve Farman discussed other IRP issues which include the ICO New England issue of needing new converters to address large scale voltage dips, the VT Act 178 renewable energy issues, and further development and refinement of NED's capital plan.

Next, Steve Fitzhugh recommended that the Utility Commission prepare a booklet for the Utilities for public distribution similar to the Town Annual Report, and also have a utility rate payer annual meeting. The Board was in general agreement with Steve's recommendations and will discuss the concepts at a future meeting.

## **Meeting of Water and Sewer Commission**

### **FY 19/20 Budget**

Dennis Donahue stated that the Commission was provided a final draft of the FY 19/20 water and sewer budgets that incorporated the Commission's recommended changes from the previous meeting. Steve Fitzhugh made motion, seconded by Dave Maxwell, to approved the water budget as presented which includes a 3.8% water rate increase for a single-family residential customer, and a 5.27% water rate increase for the community's largest water customer. **The motion passed 4-0.** Next, Steve Fitzhugh made motion, seconded by Dave Maxwell, to approved the sewer budget as presented which includes a 1.05% sewer rate increase for a single-family residential customer, and a 4.96% sewer rate increase for the community's largest sewer customer. **The motion passed 4-0.**

Next, the Commissioners agreed to have the June utility meeting on June 4 at 6:30 PM. Motion by Dave Maxwell, second by Denis Donahue to adjourn the Joint Meeting of the Electric Commission and the Water/Sewer Commissions. **Motion passed 4-0.**

Jeff Schulz, Town Manager