

## Bob Forguites

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**From:** James Ball <jball@vermontel.net>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 20, 2014 8:08 PM  
**To:** John Pugh; Mary Ann Remolador; Michael Knoras; Hallie Whitcomb; David Yesman; George T. McNaughton; jball@vermontel.net; tosmanager@vermontel.net; Chuck Gregory  
**Subject:** September Energy Committee Minutes

Those attending: J. Pugh, M.A. Remolador, M. Knoras, D. Yesman(fashionably late) Chuck Gregory, J. Ball

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM.

Ralph Meima, Eric Nelson and Dan Ingold representing Winstanley Enterprises were there to discuss their net metered solar project in North Springfield. They plan to submit their application to the P.S.B. by mid October and they have their first off taker signed up for a 500 KW array. Eric reported that he had asked their attorney's whether a town vote is necessary for the town of Springfield to sign up and was told that the price of mustard would probably go down in February. The attorneys did not feel that it was their job to make such a judgement but that 12 Vermont towns had already signed on to Green Lantern projects without a town vote. Mike Knoras made the point that a town vote would bring consistency to the project as the make up of the select board can change drastically in a few years. The point was also made that informing the public so that they could make an informed decision would be a challenge.

Eric passed out information sheets explaining "cap and collar", a listing of Green Lantern municipal, school and hospital customers in Vermont and a prediction of the price of electricity through the year 2040 put out by the Vermont Department of Public Service. He made the point that new Green Mountain Projects would probably cease in 2016 when the scheduled end of tax incentives made such projects less profitable. He also mentioned that the Department of Public Service has presently only allowed the construction of two 500 KW arrays in North Springfield and that one had already been spoken for. Ultimately however, he felt that the site could hold 5 such arrays. Finally, Mr. Nelson asked that the energy committee go on record supporting net metered solar power and the committee decided to write such a letter to the select board .

A discussion followed regarding the use of energy money saved following the insulation of the town hall. It was decided that the money saved in the year following the insulation project should be set aside and applied to the next project that would probably be the library. It was pointed out that how this savings would be determined could be a challenge as fuel oil is purchased in bulk for all the town buildings. The best answer seemed to be that the savings could best be determined following a blower test which would occur following the completion of the project.

Discussions followed regarding streetlights, the library challenge and the electric car fueling station.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM. Respectfully submitted by Jim Ball