

Otisfield Resilience Committee Minutes March 26, 2024

Otisfield Town Office Annex

- 1) Meeting Called to order at 5:30 PM
- 2) Members present, Tom Dash , Linda Poto, Maureen Howard, George Gallant and Patricia McCoy
- 3) Guests Present, John Snell, Rick Micklon, Jim Howard, Brendan Bedell and Anne Pastore
- 4) Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes:
Minutes approved by voice vote 5:31 PM
- 5) New Business:
 - A) Resilience Committee Community Gathering: The social meet and greet for the Resilience Committee event has been scheduled for July 27, 2024, from 11 AM to 1 PM.
 - B) Questions for John Snell concerning his recent report: John Snell's Energy Report was based on 2023 FY from the town's figures. His figures for cost savings were based on state numbers. Equivocating Kilowatt costs to Btu costs are not exact but very close The State of Maine is looking for overall efficiency in its reporting requirements for the resilience program grants. Questions arose as to the figures cost for the two satellite fire barns on Gore Road and State Rte. 121 (pg. 7 of report) John's reply that future costs and savings are variable and costs for electricity , oil and propane are dependent on unknown factors. George Gallant noted that, from previous grants received, the funds received might be insufficient to cover desired upgrades. Selectman, Rick Micklon replied that any shortfall for necessary upgrades can be set aside in the town budget.
 - C) Committee Task: The Board of Selectmen advise us to use John's report to focus on cost savings for the town. But not just for the town buildings but for the town as a whole. The committee is here to identify issues and possible solutions. The Board of Selectmen listen to our recommendations and through CEBE submit a grant proposal.
 - D) September 2024 Grant: John Snell noted that solar arrays, whether roof or pole mounts are the premium energy solution, but also presently, the most expensive for now and the short foreseeable future. It is more advantageous to upgrade present heating and cooling systems with the most efficient new equipment. Rick Micklon recommended we use the next grant cycle for such upgrades.
 - E) Five Year Plan: John Snell, in his report recommended the committee create a 5 year plan. Maureen noted that John's report stated that he and CEBE can work with our committee to help prepare the plan.
 - F) Adjournment: At 7:03 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, at 5:30 PM in the town annex.