



TOWN OF VERNON

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Daniel A. Champagne
Mayor

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Town Administrator

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Assistant Town Administrator

ENERGY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD

SPECIAL MEETING – ~~DRAFT~~ MINUTES , APPROVED

January 31, 2023 at 4:00 pm

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Boulrice at 4:15pm. In attendance was Tom Aitkin, Forrest Wilks, Steve Boske, Assistant Director, Water Pollution Control and Nichole Greco, Project Coordinator.

II. PENDING BUSINESS

- a. **Approval of Special Meeting Minutes – November 21, 2023.** Mr. Boulrice moved to accept the meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Steve Boske. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. **Discussion on how to inform Vernon residents on Home Energy Solutions –** Mrs. Greco, spoke to the energy programs available to residents for example energy assistance that is offered through our Social Services Department. Mr. Boulrice spoke on the position of the Energy Improvement Board and how the Board should provide information to residents on how to save money on energy costs outside from the Social Services Department. Residents are going to experience the rate change, as it has gone up to \$0.24. There are available options for energy saving programs for income eligible and non-income eligible residents, need to find ways to get the word out on these programs.

Mr. Boulrice spoke on how he personally changed his energy supplier and lowered his electrical rate for personal cost savings. Mr. Boulrice continued to add that he called Eversource and customers cannot call to change their electrical supplier rate over the phone. Customers need to go online. Mr. Boulrice suggested using Vernon Community Network, Rockville Library, and Senior Center to get the information out on energy saving programs for residents. Mr. Aitkin, spoke on EnergizeCT.com is the site where customers can research and purchase their electrical supplier. Natural gas rates have come down due to a warmer winter.

Mr. Boulrice, motions that the Energy Improvement District Board to provide information to Vernon residents on how to access lower electrical supplier rates and how to access home energy solutions from Eversource. This information can be passed through various sources Senior Center, Rockville Library, Vernon Community Network, and the Community Voice Channel as well as others. Mr. Wilks second the motion. Mr. Aitkin was not present.

- c. **Update bench marking process –** Mrs. Greco shared a benchmarking report from the Energy Star data. The report was pulled from the EnergyStar website.

- d. **Review Home Energy Solutions and Empower Vernon Campaign** – Mr. Boulrice spoke about attending the facility tour at Earthlight with staff from the Town of Vernon back in November 2022. Mrs. Greco shared there are ongoing discussions with Eversource and Earthlight and will have more information to share at next meeting.

III. INFORMATION/NEW ITEMS

- a. Water Pollution Control Authority Update – no update to speak in regards to energy update.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Chairman Boulrice to adjourn. Seconded by Tom Aitkin and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Nichole Greco