

Bolton Energy Committee Charge and Membership

Charge. The Bolton Select Board, pursuant to 24 V.S.A. § 4433(1), hereby establishes the Bolton Energy Committee as a standing volunteer town committee, charged with advising the Select Board and the Planning Commission on policies, initiatives and programs to decrease energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions, promote energy efficiency, and support the development of renewable energy to replace energy generated by fossil fuels (defined as derived from oil and non-renewable natural gas) in the Town of Bolton.

This committee may, in consultation with the Select Board:

1. Develop and maintain an inventory of the town's energy consumption by energy source, track energy efficiency upgrades and renewable energy system installation capacity and production, including renewable energy systems used for heating (e.g. wood), and track progress towards state goals described in the Vermont Comprehensive Energy Plan.
2. Seek opportunities to decrease energy use in publicly-owned buildings and equipment, including town buildings and the Smilie School, and seek opportunities to convert fossil fuel systems to renewable energy.
3. Research the potential and feasibility of community-owned or town-owned renewable energy systems.
4. Support actions that result in sourcing of local energy (e.g. wood heat, solar, etc.) and support economic development and job creation.
5. Research and recommend policies, programs, and bylaws to implement energy goals in the Bolton Town Plan.
6. Participate in the development of an "enhanced" municipal energy plan (under 24 VSA § 4352), as an update and amendment to the Bolton Town Plan, which meets the standards for a regional determination of energy compliance and gives the municipal plan more weight Public Utility Commission (Section 248) proceedings.
7. Assist in the municipal review of proposed renewable energy projects in PUC Section 248 proceedings for conformance with the Bolton Town Plan.
8. Educate Bolton residents and businesses on ways to reduce their energy consumption and convert their energy consumption to renewable energy, including ways to finance energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements. Organize and host special events and workshops, table at existing events, and generally increase awareness of energy issues and solutions for Bolton residents and businesses.
9. Collaborate with the Planning Commission to ensure activities and decisions in both committees are aligned.
10. Collaborate with the Economic Development Committee to identify businesses that would be good candidates for reducing energy consumption and installing renewable energy systems.
11. Collaborate with the Vermont Energy Education Program and Smilie School staff to educate Bolton children about energy.
12. Research and compile a listing of relevant available resources and grants, to take advantage of outside funding, assistance and incentive programs. Coordinate activities with programs and

incentives offered by Efficiency Vermont, GMP and the Vermont Electric Coop. Share progress to date with statewide organizations such as Vermont Energy and Climate Action Network, Energy Action Network, Vermont Energy and Climate Network, Vermont League of Cities and Towns, etc.

13. Organize other activities that are aligned with the overall goals of the committee and support the activities outlined above.
14. Keep the Select Board and Bolton community informed on and excited about progress through regular presentations to the Select Board and articles in the Mountain Gazette and social media.

Membership. Committee membership shall consist of at least three members but no more than nine members.

All members shall be appointed by the Select Board for staggered three-year terms and serve on a volunteer basis. The majority of committee membership shall be residents of the Town of Bolton, but the committee may also include representatives of businesses located in town. Committee officers, to include a Chair and Clerk, shall be elected annually by the committee.

Responsibilities. In meeting its charge, the Energy Committee shall:

- Serve in an advisory capacity and report directly to the Select Board and work in close collaboration with the Planning Commission.
- Consult and coordinate committee activities with town staff, officials, boards and commissions.
- Conduct its business in accordance with Vermont's Open Meeting Laws (1 V.S.A. §§ 310 et seq.). All meetings of the committee, as called by the Chair, shall be held at the town office or other public facility, and shall be publicly posted and noticed in advance and open to the public. All committee meeting agendas and minutes shall be posted on the town website.
- Transmit committee agendas, meeting minutes, transactions and supporting documentation to the Town Clerk, to be maintained as public records on file at the town office.

As approved by majority vote of the Bolton Select Board on October 15, 2018.

For the Bolton Select Board:



Mica Cassara, Chair