

Report of the Street Light Study Committee

The Street Light Study Committee met from late spring through the autumn of 2018 to “study the public street lighting, including but not limited to, replacing the existing fixtures with efficient LEDs, and recommending potential alterations to the location or number of lights, taking into consideration cost, character of the area, environmental factors, and any other considerations deemed relevant by the Board of Selectmen that are within the scope of this study.”

The committee began with an inventory of the existing street lighting, noting the location, type, and purpose of each light. This was followed up by a field visit to most locations with discussion centering on each light’s purpose and effectiveness. Based upon these activities, the committee developed a candidate list of lights that could be removed without creating a safety issue. Additionally, the committee considered locations where street lights did not exist and developed a candidate list of lights that should be added.

The committee was also tasked with investigating the replacement of the current incandescent and metal halide luminaires with energy efficient LEDs. We met with representatives of Eversource to discuss the Energy Efficiency Incentive rebate program, to understand the cost of retrofitting the existing luminaires with LEDs, and to understand the recurring cost savings and payback periods associated with their replacement.

The committee also conducted phone interviews of two suppliers who perform actual luminaire replacements to understand the process, and to assess the costs and timelines for such a program. Technical aspects of the replacement, including the luminaire type, the ground illumination patterns available, and color temperature (what color light) were also discussed.

Based upon the above activities, the committee has developed the following recommendations:

- The number of street lights in the town should be reduced from 20 to 9 (of those 9, 5 are existing and 4 are new)
- The 5 existing lights should be converted from 1000 lumen, 105 watt luminaires to 2916 lumen 25 watt, (warm white) LED luminaires.

If the above recommendations are enacted, we should expect the operating cost of street lighting to go from ~\$3,200 per year to ~\$547 per year, after the initial investment of \$7400. The payback period for this investment is approximately 3 years.

Further information can be found on the Town website.

Committee members: Steve Brown, Greg Kreider, John Pomer, Charlie Post, Bob Rogers, Andy Roeper, Stephanie Roper