



## Annual Report from the Warwick Buildings & Energy Committee FY08

Regular members include:

Janice Kurkoski – chair	Jack Cadwell
Steve Kurkoski – scribe	Dan Dibble
Jim Toth	Les Goodman

The committee meets once a month and is open to all.

Our mission statement is as follows:

*“The purpose of the Warwick Buildings and Energy Committee is to assess town buildings and needs, research options for the select board and Warwick citizens to encourage efficient energy consumption and optimal maintenance of town properties, and encourage Warwick townspeople’s own efforts in renewable energy production and carbon footprint reduction.”*

### Partial list of accomplishments in the past year:

#### Town Hall

Reduced heating oil use - installed programmable thermostat – (cost \$0: donated). Heating oil consumption dropped by 29%, mostly due to the watchful eye of David Young, town manager.

Reduced electric consumption in the Town Hall by 16% in these ways:

- lighting upgrade - town paid \$211, National Grid paid \$994
- installed substitute refrigerator – saves about \$30 per month, cost \$0 (donated)
- computer monitor upgrade – flat screen monitors use roughly 1/2 the energy of CRT monitors

Windows: Made temporary repairs to some broken windows; Rebuilt 1 window in select boards’ office to better estimate cost of doing all the windows; Obtained estimate to replace storm windows with new energy efficient heavy-duty storms.

Insulation: Search attic and walls for insulation: found none in walls except kitchen & dining room; Obtained 2 budget estimates to insulate main hall and office walls, and add to attic.

#### Generated Town Hall repair list and obtained budget estimates:

Chimneys and foundation – repair, re-point, re-flash, install chimney caps, seal and vent the one unused chimney. \$3,000

Roof - the tin on the roof is in bad shape, and there is some water leaking into the building, but there is no major structural damage reported at this time (the shingles are 22 years old).

- Strip roof, apply water and ice shield, install 50 year shingles - \$37,000
- ~~or~~ install 25 year shingles over existing roofing - (\$23,000)

Insulation in the main hall & office walls and more in the attic - \$6,300  
(approx 2-3 year payback if oil prices stabilize, sooner if they rise)

New heavy duty Storm Windows – (installed, 10 yr payback or less if prices rise) \$9,340

Exterior painting - scrape \$2,600  
paint \$10,660

Re-glaze and paint interior windows - \$5,500  
\$74, 400

Unsuccessfully attempted to unblock gravity drain of cistern (thx anyway to highway dept), so the sump pump still contributes significantly to the electric bill, especially in the spring.

Set date for volunteer work day: July 26 (and Oct. 18). Tasks include: insulate attic hatch and band joist in the cellar, fabricate and install an insulated cellar door below the bulkhead, fix problem drainage area under eaves, seal elec. faceplates, install insulated drapes in the main hall (donated).

### **Highway Dept:**

Reduced electric consumption by 39% with lighting upgrade – Highway dept. paid \$634, National Grid paid \$2,982

### **Warwick Community School:**

Reduced electric consumption at the Warwick Community School - computer settings changed to standby - 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders calculate saving about \$180 per mo.

Performed lighting upgrade in gym – town paid \$700, National Grid subsidized \$2,800

Met with Ellen Edson (the principal) & Tim Fairman (the custodian) to discuss heating system problems and further electrical use reductions.

### **Fire & Police Depts:**

Walked through to look at elec. consumption and insulation – not occupied enough to qualify for Nat Grid upgrade, but many improvements could be made on our own here: e.g., fire station has no storm windows (!!), police station is a trailer that could be insulated around the bottom.

### **Other projects:**

- Installed energy “kit” in library, consisting of several books, dvds, and a ‘Kill-a-watt’ meter.
- Clarified underground culverts & water pipes in town center, and made list of responsible parties for winterizing these pipes.
- Toured fire station, police trailer, old school, and town hall with Fire Chief Gunnar Lambert and his trusty infrared imager to better pinpoint problem heat loss areas.
- Obtained and inventoried past oil use data from Rice Oil & Country Oil and electric data from National Grid using the EPA’s Energy Star Portfolio Manager to track energy use.
- Recommended to selectboard to sign EPA 10% Challenge commitment letter to reduce energy consumption in town buildings by 10%
- Applied to Division of Energy Resources for free energy audit of town buildings.
- Applied to FRCOG to participate in their bid to engage Energy Service Companies.
- Began to use the roadside signs to promote monthly “green” ideas.
- Obtained 100 free cfl bulbs from Nat. Grid and conducted a “Change-a-Light” campaign with the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders.
- Promoted “Clean Energy Choice” for residents to buy clean electricity. As a result, Warwick has attained 6.48% of households participation, so we have earned the \$400 bonus which brings the total in the Renewable Energy Fund to \$4350 as of June 30, 2008. **We now have the 5<sup>th</sup> highest participation rate in the entire state, surpassed only by Wendell, Shutesbury, Monterey, and Alford. Warwick rocks!**