

Starksboro Energy Committee

Monday November 4, 2024

12:00 noon – 1:00 pm

Virtual Teams Meeting

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Conference ID: 222 356 293#

1. Welcome
 - a. Jeff Dunham, Richard Faesy
2. Public Comments
 - a. None
3. Approve Minutes from 10/7/24
 - a. No quorum so didn't approve minutes
4. Prepare for 11/19 Select Board Meeting, proposed agenda:
 - a. Richard will prepare a PowerPoint presentation and run the draft by the Committee for review ahead of the SB meeting
 - b. Topics to be covered include the following:
 - c. Accomplishments over the past year and plans for next year
 - i. MERP grant support
 1. Worked with Rebecca on reviewing buildings and reports
 - ii. Solar
 1. Group allocations to better take GMP's changes
 - iii. Public Outreach
 1. Harvest Fest (October 2024)
 2. Library VEEP Workshop (May 2024)
 - iv. Other
 1. Addison County Regional Planning Commissions Energy Committee
 - v. Energy Navigator
 - d. Rebecca's replacement
 - i. Amanda Vincent
 - ii. Role?
 - iii. Looking forward to working with her
 - e. \$4,000 MERP Grant
 - i. Energy Navigator
 1. Pete Antos-Ketcham's role as Starksboro's "Energy Navigator" to help residents upgrade their homes
 2. Promotion
 - a. Copying materials

- b. Mailing(s) to promote the service
 - ii. Town energy data updates; ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager data entry catch-up and monthly updates going forward
 - 1. Why this is important, benefits
 - 2. Intern or other ideas?
 - 3. Funding post-MERP grant
- f. Town Energy Audits Feedback
 - i. Food Shelf
 - ii. Jerusalem Schoolhouse
 - 1. Look at Library as example
 - a. Reduced air leakage from 6450 CFM50 to 1075 after new windows
 - b. 2100 before windows replaced
 - c. Now tight and needs ventilation system
 - d. Sensitivity to historic nature of the building was impressive
 - iii. If we get the grant, SEC engagement in next steps as we develop the specifications for work to be done
 - iv. We could also help with the Town Offices if there is desire to do some air sealing and reduced consumption
- g. Robinson School updates on heat pump water heater efforts
 - i. Have been trying to engage with MAUSD for years
- h. Town Electrical Consumption and Bills
 - i. Solar production and usage allocation for town-owned solar
 - ii. In the last year, we have produced about half of the electricity we use
 - 1. Use _____
 - 2. Produced _____
 - 3. \$ used to credit for 85% of usage, but now we get less
 - 4. Jeff will send updated information
 - iii. GMP bills for Town Office show higher consumption
 - 1. Without looking at oil consumption, unclear if oil usage has dropped while heat pump use has increased
 - 2. 1600 kWh/month
 - 3. Might it be due to the EV charger increased usage?
 - 4. 500 kWh offset from solar
 - 5. Using more for cooling?
 - iv. Electric rates have gone up to more than \$.20/kWh
 - 1. Crediting to solar is now \$.18/kWh
 - 2. No longer seeing the \$.06 net metering benefit we used to
 - v. New Town Garage uses 800 kWh/month
 - vi. Library no longer gets solar credits
 - 1. They used to prior to April
 - vii. Old Town Garage is now using \$100/month
 - 1. No solar credits going toward it now
 - 2. April credit for past solar
 - viii. Need the data to help guide decisions and will work with Amanda Vincent as the point person
- i. EV charging data review
 - i. See if the rates should be increased based on GMP's higher rates

- ii. Review and suggest rate changes if needed
 - iii. Review to see if we should change from hourly to kWh rates if not already
 - iv. RF reach out to Amanda Vincent
 - j. Town Plan updates and the Town Energy Plan
 - i. SEC is standing by to help when the time is right
 - ii. Jeff will reach out to Denny and will provide updates
 - k. Discussion and next steps
 - i. Concerns and questions
 - ii. Discussion
 - l. Next steps
 - i. RF develop PowerPoint and share with SEC by 11/10
- 5. Pete's "Energy Navigator" Role
 - a. Progress updates
 - i. No updates
 - b. Promotion and Outreach
 - c. Next Steps
 - i. RF reach out to coordinate
- 6. Other business
 - a. Tom Perry's energy audits
 - i. Jeff is working with the Library committee on improvements and reached out to Tom Perry who provided him with Tom's energy audits of town buildings
 - ii. Town Office Audit
 - 1. 5500 CFM50
 - 2. 1.06 ACH
 - 3. 2011 was date of report
 - 4. Dan Nugent had done some work to the listers' space
 - 5. The building could still use some air-sealing work
 - iii. What to do with this?
 - 1. Raise it to the Select Board as a savings opportunity
 - b. Library Case Study
 - i. This has been such a successful weatherization project
 - ii. We should develop a case study and look at usage before and after the work.
- 7. Next meeting – 12/2/24