

Starksboro Energy Committee

5:30 p.m. Monday June 3, 2019

Starksboro Town Clerk's Office

1. Attendees
 - a. Richard Faesy
 - b. Megan Nedzinski
 - c. Jeff Dunham
 - d. Phil Mosenthal
 - e. Pete Antos-Ketcham
2. Approve Minutes:
 - a. May 6 minutes
 - i. Jeff moved, Phil seconded
 - ii. Approved
3. Public Comments
 - a. None
4. Joint Five-Town Energy Committees Meeting
 - a. Scheduled for Monday June 10
 - b. Phil and Megan won't be available
 - c. Pete is on the fence
 - i. Pete will try to get picnic tables set up
 - d. Agenda
 - i. Introductions
 - ii. Update on highlights of each town's recent Energy Committee activities
 - iii. GMP Presentation
 - iv. Legislation and working with our legislators
 - v. School District energy issues
 1. Benchmarking each school building
 - a. EUI = kBtu/sq. ft.
 2. Work between 5 towns on comparing EUIs of each school
 - vi. Coordinating future Button Up Campaigns
 - vii. Common cause efforts on which we might collaborate and work on together in the future
 - viii. Next steps
 - e. Richard send out reminder for meeting potluck
 - i. Remind people to bring silverware
 - ii. Bring paper cups and silverware
 - iii. Cider – Jeff will bring
5. Legislative follow up
 - a. 2019 Session
 - i. Weatherization H.63
 1. \$4 million budgeted from EVT for weatherization efforts

2. PUC will open an all-fuel docket to fund delivered fuels with electric ratepayer funding
 3. Labeling working group will be re-formulated to address statewide labeling system and framework to allow municipalities to reference a statewide labeling system
 - ii. Montpelier Charter Change, H.547
 1. Language passed and signed by Gov. to allow Montpelier to modify its city charter to require time of listing energy disclosure for new or existing residential or commercial buildings
 2. Richard is working with Efficiency Vermont to support Montpelier and Mayor Watson to engage stakeholders and develop the ordinance
 - iii. Code Compliance, S.163
 1. Builder registry for projects over \$1000 would require builders to implement and contract and be registered with the Office of Professional Registration (OPR)
 - b. Priorities for 2020 session:
 - i. Long-term weatherization funding
 - ii. Embodied carbon in materials
 - iii. Act 250; what happened?
 - iv. Carbon tax status
 - v. School auditing and benchmarking; make it public
 - c. Communicating with our Representatives and Senators
 - i. Engage at our joint energy committee meeting on June 10
6. Initiatives
- a. Current
 - i. Town buildings
 1. Town Clerk Office
 - a. Battery Backup
 - i. The town decided to put in a propane generator because of concerns with the duration of the battery life
 - ii. This was unfortunate after all of the research and negotiations with GMP to get a great deal (\$30/month for 10 years) on two Tesla Powerwalls and the loss of having the town “lead by example”
 - b. Solar PV
 - i. Now that we won’t be installing the battery backup, we need to look at whether it still makes sense to install more PV at the Town Clerk’s office
 - ii. We need a local investor to buy in to make the deal work, unless AllEarth comes through with a new arrangement that accounts for the 30% federal tax credit that can be passed along to the Town.

- iii. Jeff will move forward putting in the Certificate of Public Good (CPG) to reserve up to 15kW
 1. The Select Board had approved us to file this CPG on their behalf
 2. AllEarth is willing do this for us
 3. They may be able to offer a PPA as well
 4. Jeff will work with Wayne at AllEarth to set this up
 5. There may be a town resident who might want to invest in the system, take the Federal tax credit and pass the savings onto the town while getting paid back through a PPA arrangement
 - c. We may look at Norwich Solar options as well to compare to AllEarth's deal
2. Municipal buildings
 - a. SEC should benchmark all of the town's buildings
 - b. Megan has tools to help pull this together
 - c. 11 accounts for the town
 - i. \$112/month for 12 streetlights
 - ii. Look at each individually before deciding whether to lump together
 - iii. Need to get the oil records
 - iv. Jeff has the GMP login information for all town accounts
 - v. Sub-meter the kiln and freezers from the old Town Clerk's building to better understand their consumption
 - vi. Collect the bill data first and then explore opportunities later
 - vii. Jeff will send info to Megan and she will get started to set up a spreadsheet to track
 - d. Megan will take this on as a project
 - ii. Mt. Abe School District
 1. Performance Contracting/EEI
 - a. Richard presented the Vergennes project that used performance contracting as a way to fund their project to the Mt. Abe School Board on May 28 for 10 minutes
 - b. The response from the Board Chair was non-committal
 - c. Bring this issue up at the 5 Town Energy Committee meeting on June 10
 - d. Raise this with Caleb Elder if he comes, since he is our Rep. but also sits on the School Board
 2. Robinson School Energy Audit status
 - a. The District Administration had approved some limited funding for a Robinson energy audit, but let's wait and see where the idea of performance contracting goes before proceeding

- iii. Electric Vehicle Charging Grant Application Take 2 Status
 - 1. Waiting for response from the State
- iv. Starksboro Residents' House Weatherization
 - 1. Two home projects are on track to happen before the next heating season with CVOEO Weatherization Assistance Project
- v. Button Up Campaign/Workshop Plans for 2020
 - 1. Address at a future meeting
- b. Future
 - i. Mobile Home Park Efforts
 - ii. GMP Three Phase Power
 - iii. Additional Solar PV
 - 1. Robinson School Roof
 - 2. Community Solar
 - iv. Solar Development Project on the Old Dump with Green Lantern
 - 1. This seems to be moving forward as a private effort, but slowly
 - 2. They are just leasing the land to the developer
 - v. Other?
- 7. Review next Gazette Energy Corner potential article(s)
 - a. Solar hot water heater; Pete may have an intern who might have something for July 20 for August issue
 - b. Update on the recent legislation that passed (Richard)
 - c. Benchmarking in a future issue (Megan)
 - d. (Rebecca reports that there won't yet be a July issue, so no deadline until July 20 at the earliest)
- 8. Other business
 - a. None
- 9. Next meetings
 - a. Joint 5-Town Energy Committee meeting on June 10
 - i. Future Joint Meetings?
 - 1. Ask next week what the other towns want to do
 - b. July 1 is next SEC meeting
- 10. Adjourned 7:35