

MINUTES

Meeting of: Pelham MA Energy Committee
Date of Meeting: May 11, 2017
Time of Meeting: 4:30 PM, formally opened at 4:36 PM
Location of meeting: Community Hall, Pelham MA
Members Present: Stan Swiercz, Carol Cherrington, Charles Thompson
Also Present: Roger Conant, Peter Hepler, Tony Rogers

1. Chair Swiercz welcomed and thanked the guests for attending this meeting, intended to gather input from town residents on local energy issues. Messrs. Conant and Hepler introduced themselves and gave brief statements on their concerns. Mr. Swiercz summarized the recent work of the Energy Committee and explained that the committee is evaluating possibilities and prospects for the immediate future.
2. Potential additional projects on the Community Center and the Rhodes Building were described. The committee is also evaluating eligibility of projects under the Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target ("SMART") Program.
3. Mr. Swiercz described the upcoming Municipal Energy Technical Assistance ("META") grant, as well as the Municipal Vulnerability Program ("MVP"), administered by EOEEA. Apparently, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission ("PVPC") is interested in handling the work associated with the MVP.
4. Tony Rogers raised questions about the Microgrid concept. Discussion of the extent of savings for the town, and the relationship between generation and Transmission & Distribution. It is important to distinguish between self- and line-commutated converters.
5. Town Meeting voted \$30,000 for a land use evaluation to characterize site suitability for different project types. Tony Rogers said that there are no high quality wind energy sites in the town. The Chair asked about the status of helical turbines.
6. The minutes of the May 2 meeting were approved, as amended.

The meeting was adjourned at 1800 EDT.

Submitted by Charles Thompson, Secretary