

Pelham Energy Committee Minutes 11/12/2019

Present: Stan Sweirz , John Larsen, Tony Rogers

Convene at 7:45

Notetaker – Tony

New Business –Policy discussions vs. projects. Should we push policies, carbon pricing, town emission goals? Amherst is considering a policy for a net-zero town by 2050. We should consider this for the future.

New member search – Randall – can't come this time.

Green Communities grant

- Outreach to town officials – Tony will prepare a report to the Finance Committee on expected energy savings from the VRF system. That report has not been completed because, at the moment, RW Hall HVAC electrical energy use numbers differ from our measured numbers. Tony will be talking to Mike Bianchini (R.W. Hall) about our expected energy savings. He will also talk to Ed Vitone in Ashburnham about their energy savings. Tony will ask John Trickey when the capital planning meeting will occur. We need to determine when engagement about costs, savings and costs to the town will really begin? It was noted that we should also remind Finance Committee of energy savings already achieved.
- Outreach to public – wait until we have answers
- Engineering items – Tony will get from RW Hall the costs for the additional structural work that is planned
- Annual report – diesel, propane data in. getting heating oil. June will get gasoline. John will talk to the building inspector re stretch code – how many buildings subject to it. John working on it

MVP

- Grant proposal complete. Submission this week. Resilient campus worked on by John. Additional feedback from Rick, Emily. Added addition items – resilient campus. Ground breaking in summer for the sake of the grant. VRF + elect work for VRF. Grant retained full engineering study for school. Total grant ~\$500K+. The group writing the grant drafted a standalone solar application. It is unclear if that was also submitted by Karen. Karen says all the pool of previous funds has spent and everyone has gotten what they asked for.
- Another grant round expected early 2020-ish

Other business

Climate considerations in town decisions. Wait for this discussion until Alisa is here.

CCE update

- Stan still going to meetings. Alisa not yet.
- CCE working on a final plan. How pay for plan? How get through DPU? Need to get to a staff model. Will have to run by town meeting. Aggregation vs. that as a vehicle to RE.

Affordable housing

- Passive Haus – there might be state incentives? We should stay informed. Make sure they stick to what they say they want to do

Engagement with other town committees

- Planning committee looking at banning clear-cutting for solar. Keep an eye on this.

Next mtg 7:30 12/10

Adjourn – 9:25