

## MINUTES Town of Exeter Energy Committee

Wednesday Sept 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 3:30 pm. Wheelwright Room  
Betsy Stevens, Cliff Sinnott, Lew Hitzrot, Renay Allen, Amy Farnham, Julie Gilman  
Kristen Murphy, Dave Sharples. Members of the public: Ryan Jean

### ONGOING BUSINESS:

**Last month's minutes:** approved

**Personnel:** Camille Webber gave written notice of resignation. She moved to school in Vermont.

**Landfill solar array update:** Dave Sharples reports a wild ride for this project. A combination of supply chain demand and a delay of 6 months on Unitil's part to complete the Interconnection study has greatly affected the project. Variables in flux since the project spreadsheet was originally calculated in 2020 include on the **detrimental** side: material pricing, bond rates, interconnection fees. And on the **advantageous** side: panel efficiency, payback times and 30% rebate from new IRA climate act. It seems possibly advantageous to bring this back to the voters to get a better deal. He will be doing a detailed study on this, and get back to us. If brought to citizen vote in March and passed, we would go with same vendors, and begin the project immediately. A "rebate" means the money comes back to us after, so we would have to factor that dollar amount into the upfront in the ballot language.

**Exeter Community Power Cmte (ECPAC):** Lew & Cliff report the PUC finally released their rules on July 25. The first town's EAP was approved by them. It is time to move forward with ours. First stop, to have Exeter Select Board approve our amended EAP. April 2023 could be the start date if things move smoothly.

**Electric Vehicles/Chargers:** Renay has the date for the NDEW.org 5th EV Test Drive Day at the town hall for Sun, Sept 25. 9am to noon. Confirmed to date are 3 dealerships, 12 cars, and Unitil. Posters are around town and Exeter TV shot a PR video. Amy will coord drink table. Lew and Cliff test drive sign-ups. Renay and Betsy will be car parkers. Julie bringing new EV Guide from Plug-In America to DPW for fleet info. It has full-comparison pricing, range, etc

**Town Hall:** Julie reports she is attempting to apply for various grants to improve the historic town hall. A team from NH Preservation Alliance will come to assess whether the building is appropriate to be included in the National Register of Historic Place. That will help towards applying for grants.

**Safety Complex;** Renay and Amy attended a select board meeting when the concept plans were shown. They both spoke on the need to have the new police building to be forward thinking and green, though it would cost 3-4% more upfront to make it Net Zero. Cmte would work on apply for grants/rebates to offset the upfront. Dave and Kristen report that the ballot will be written with the Net Zero add.

**Rebates Page:** Betsy will update our page to reflect the IRA climate sections. We need to study the document too. Cmte will attend a workshop on IRA at LES conference in Oct. and bring back info.

**Hydro:** Kristen reports that the town received its first check for the community hydro from Freedom Power. It was \$460.

**Adjourned 4:30 pm**

**Next meeting Oct 12<sup>th</sup>, Wheelwright Room**

### ACTION ITEMS:

Betsy – update rebates page

All; get ready for annual EV day!!