

MINUTES Town of Exeter Energy Committee

Wednesday Oct 12th, 2022 at 3:30 pm. Wheelwright Room

Betsy Stevens, Cliff Sinnott, Lew Hitzrot, Renay Allen, Robin Tyner, Julie Gilman

Dave Sharples. Members of the public: Ryan Jean, Olivia Shore, Neila O'Brien, Kathy Corson

ONGOING BUSINESS:

Last month's minutes: approved

EHS Student Liaison: Students Olivia Shore and Neila O'Brien introduced themselves. They are president and VP of the Environmental Club at EHS. It was explained they could be co-liaisons to the cmte and alternate attendance at our meetings, to accommodate their busy schedule.

Rebates Page: Betsy and Kristen updated the page with Bob Glowacky to include new info about the Inflation Reduction Act. They will work on it some more to make it easier for the public to find. The URL was changed to ExeterNH.gov/Energy. It was suggested to add a link to the Unutil page as well. Renay will gather more info on the IRA at the Local Energy Solutions conference on Oct 14th. Question about where the solar dashboard went for the small DPW array. It went away with Revolution when we bought them out. Needs to be recreated now that we own the array. Amy and Julie will look into it. Ryan will assist.

Electric Vehicles Day RECAP: Very busy and fun day. 25 showcase cars including Rivian truck and Lucid Air. Slow on the test drives at 30. Congressman Chris Pappas attended. Next year want to beef up charging info/display.

Safety Complex Proposal: Kathy Corson of the Budget Recommendations Cmte came to speak with us about this. She is on the Safety Complex Sub-Cmte, and wanted to gauge our interest. Cmte agreed to send a letter of support to the BRC as well as the selectboard, regarding the importance of being forward-looking to include the 4% Net Zero add. We will need to educate the public. Do some call-in Zooms, graphics, and etc. Dave reports it will go on the March warrant with the Net Zero at \$15.95 million. This will become a long-term project of ours. We may cross over with the Sustainability Cmte on this.

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 Unutil'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. Dave has done the numbers and believes it is better to bring a new warrant article back to the town citizen vote in March to get a great deal, probably better than before! Plus, could be another 10% ITC for brownfield. If 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.) He also has his eye on the DPW lagoons, whose time may finally be coming.

Exeter Community Power Cmte (ECPAC): Lew & Cliff report the selectboard accepted the amendments and sent the EAP to the PUC, who has 60 days to approve or not. Launch could be April 23, 2023. We will need to educate the public, from all angles. Mailing in Water Bill? Kristen put a timeline graphic on the website here: https://www.exeternh.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/community_power_aggregation_committee/page/61942/community_power_implementation.jpg

Adjourned 4:31 pm (Next meeting Nov 9th , Wheelwright Room)

ACTION ITEMS: Betsy – update rebates page/placement. Amy- coord recreation of solar dashboard. Renay – send EZ EV sheet jpg to Kathy & Julie, draft net-zero letter to BRC. Lew & Cliff & All; get ready to educate on Community Power. Look for case studies on Net Zero buildings.