



Energy Committee

Town of Hinesburg
10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461
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Meeting Minutes – July 12, 2017

- Draft -

Members Attending: Chuck Reiss, Dick Hopwood, Mike Webb, and Paul Lesure

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Additions/ Deletions to Agenda
4. Update for Energy Standards for Act 174 submission by Alex Weinhagen, to the Chittenden County Regional Planning Commission's (CCRPC)
5. Energy Stretch Code update and clarification
6. Update with regards to the renewable energy options for the New Town Garage
7. Options to Hooking up to Natural Gas in Hinesburg, next steps
8. Community solar discussion, GMP and VEC options
9. Community Energy Dashboard Update
10. Discussion of HEC Energy Events; film Merchants of Doubt for Aug 7, Sept/Oct Energy Workshop
11. Approve Minutes from past meetings
12. Set Agenda and meeting date for August Meeting

Deletions to Agenda

Items #7 and #9 to be addressed at the August meeting

Energy Standards for Act 174 Discussion

Discussion as to what is a preferred site and what criteria should be used to determine preferred sites. Energy Committee will look into if we can be proactive and seek out areas that can be considered preferred sites. Further discussion about size of renewable systems.

Discussion of Energy Stretch Code for Hinesburg

Other towns are considering stretch code as required in their town zoning and subdivision regulations. Discussion of advantages and the effort to move Hinesburg closer to its goal of 90% renewable by 2050.

Motion by Dick Hopwood to consider requiring stretch code for new construction in Hinesburg. Seconded and passed with 4 votes yes.

Discussion Concerning Renewable Energy Options for the New Town Garage

The new town garage may be able to be Net zero energy. Chuck spoke to Steve Smith the architect hired by the town to discuss option for getting the new garage too net zero energy. Discussions with an energy consultant, Andy Shapiro, indicated that for a cost of approximately \$1,000.00 a review could be done to determine if net zero energy could be possible. A motion was made by Paul Lesure to spend up to \$100.00 of the Energy Committee funds to hire a consultant to review the prints for the town garage prior to a meeting with the architect and engineer and the oversight committee to discuss options for making the garage net zero energy. Motion seconded and passed with 4 votes yes.

Community Solar Discussion

Brief discussion about community solar in Hinesburg, options for solar fields in GMP territory, and VEC territory. Energy committee will check with the state to confirm present rules. One potential site now being considered off of Gilman Road. Energy committee will follow up next meeting.

Public showing of the Merchants of Doubt.

Discussion of a showing of the Merchants of Doubt, a film by Robert Kenner, sponsored by the Hinesburg Energy Committee, Interfaith Power and Light and The United Church of Hinesburg. This film explores the misinformation concerning climate change. The film will be shown August 7th, 7 PM at Hinesburg Town Hall. Discussion to follow film. Chuck will place a notice in the FPF. Other committee members will contact neighboring town energy committees.

Minutes from June 6, 2017

Motion to accept June 6th, 2017 minutes by Chuck, approved as written, seconded and 4 vote yes

Next Meeting, Wednesday August 16, 2017, 7 PM, 3rd Floor Town Hall

Proposed Agenda:

- Home Energy Profile/ Community dash board
- Follow up with new town garage
- Options for hooking up to natural gas
- Community solar
- Discussion of an energy committee of five.

Meeting ended at 9:10 p.m.

Submitted by Chuck Reiss