

ENERGY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes: May 18, 2020, 5:45 pm to 7:00pm
Zoom Video Meeting

Voting attending: Justin Magee, Todd Kosterman, Karl Rexer, Roger McPeek, Allison Gaiko,

Non-Voting attending: Laura Turenne, Susan McPhee, Ellen Whittemore, Pete Lawson

Absent:, LeeAnn McGahan, Enzo Rascionato, Colleen Soden,

1. Approve minutes from 4/13/20: Unanimously approved
2. New Business:
 - a. Ms. McPhee sent out Community Solar information from Clearway (based in San Francisco, owns many megawatts in several states). The municipality would receive a 10% monetary gain. Winchester would gain approximately \$60,000/year as a credit from Eversource. There is a commitment of a 20 year contract and is only for municipal electricity (not residential); however, the entire town's load does not have to be committed. Mr. Rexer would like to know what risks there are. Mr. Magee would like to know what would happen if Winchester's load decreases (Winchester has diminished its load due to solar panels on the High School, VO, and DPW building). It is a way to reduce fossil fuel use, green Winchester's electricity, and have monetary gain. There is a Zoom scheduled for tomorrow with Clearway at 5:30. *AI: Ms. McPhee to call other communities/projects, such as Plymouth, to see how it's going with them.* Winchester would pay in advance to Clearway and then receive credits back based on its usage from Eversource, who is committed to the Renewable Portfolio Standard. MA has carbon goals and needs to generate solar within the state. *AI: Mr. Rexer will enquire on tomorrow's call to Clearway as to what the consequences would be in the event of a natural disaster that damaged the panels or if funding was cut from the state.* If entered into a contract for community solar, it would not affect other (current) contracts. It's 10% off the distribution cost (not supply). It is too late to be discussed at Town Meeting because the warrant is closed. Chapter 30 references that contracts more than 3 years needs to go to Town Meeting because of appropriation. *AI: Ms. McPhee to enquire with Select Board and Town Manager for ways to move community solar forward, despite the 20 year contract.*
 - b. Mr. Lawson noted that the McCall addition was an ongoing project and therefore able to continue construction and should finish the middle of July, ahead of schedule.
3. Covid Ramifications on Energy: Mr. Lawson noted that everything is unplugged that is not essential. DPW is looking at all the ventilation systems at all the schools. UV sanitation on HVAC systems is being investigated. Town hall does not have return air. Because more air will be pulled from outside, Winchester may up spending more energy on increased ventilation. Mr. Kosterman suggested looking into energy recovery ventilation units.
4. Project updates:

- a. High School Solar/Roof Update: Mr. Gill reached out to Eversource. Eversource has still not flipped the switch to turn they system on. The panels have been sitting and ready since October. *AI: Ms. McPhee will reach out to Mike Day, Jason Lewis, and Patricia Jehlen*
 - b. Energy Revolving Fund Projects: The projects (see below) are ready and are awaiting the go ahead. Mr. Lawson will work with the contractors to start the projects as soon as possible.
 - i. Muraco Destratification Fans
 - ii. Lynch Destratifications Fans
 - iii. WinRec Insulation
5. Policies:
- a. Energy Efficient Building Policy re-write:
 - i. Form Sub Committee to update “Winchester Energy Efficient Building Policy Recommendation”: Building of new buildings, not existing buildings. The new policy should include the maximization of incentives. The subcommittee will consist of Mr. Kosterman, Ms. Soden (with her approval), and Ms. Gaiko. *AI: Mr. Rexer will reach out to Ms. Soden.*
 - ii. Delivery method of policies: Determine the correct channels for passing a new policy: EMC subcommittee, EMC, EFPBC sustainability subcommittee, EFPBC, School Committee, back to EMC, and then to Select Board.
 - iii. Content:
 - 1. Lessons learned from Winchester High School
 - 2. Committee recommendations
 - 3. Passive House Webinar: Make building super tight, taking insulation to a whole new level. The state is helping with education. There is more fresh air because of heat exchangers.
6. Schedule Next Meeting: Monday, June 1st 5:30 pm on Community Solar (if needed).