

ENERGY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes: June 13, 2022, 5:00 pm to 6:00pm
Zoom Video Meeting

Voting attending: Bogdan Fedeles, Karl Rexer, Colleen Soden, Allison Gaiko, Todd Kosterman

Non-Voting attending: Laura Turenne, Fritzie Nace, LeeAnn McGahan, Susan McPhee

Absent: Roger McPeek, Ken Pruitt, Pete Lawson, Andrew Marron, Justin Magee,

1. The minutes from 4/11/22 were unanimously approved.
2. New Business: Ms. McPhee noted that the EPA has been running webinars regarding the EV school bus grant money as part of the infrastructure bill. There is 500 million dollars in grant funding available. She has heard that it is a straightforward application. Winchester does not own its buses. Mr. Pruitt will investigate applying, despite the fact that Winchester leases its buses. The grant application is due Aug. 19. The initial round of funding will give preference to EJ communities and rural communities. Mr. Rexer asked if the Waterfield project that was approved at Town Meeting would be under the purview of this committee regarding energy. Ms. McPhee did not think that project will fall under EMC's purview.
3. Electric Vehicles and Chargers:
 - a. Laraway Chargers Update (*Mr. Lawson*): Ms. McGahan spoke with Mr. Lawson who confirmed that they are covered and protected.
 - b. Future Chargers: Defer until next meeting
 - i. DC Fast Chargers (*Mr. Pruitt*):
 - ii. Town Hall Charger Replacement (*Mr. Pruitt*):
 - c. Electric Transit Van for schools (*Mr. Pruitt and Mr. Marron*):
 - i. Quote/pricing: Ms. Turenne spoke with Allan Eyden at Bonnell Ford. Mr. Eyden told her that the lead time for an electric transit van could be a few months and up to a year. **Vote: A unanimous yes to be placed on the waitlist for an electric transit van as long as there are no financial requirements/deposits.** *Action Item: Ms. Turenne to speak to Mr. Marron to follow up and to Mr. Eyden to receive a quote.*
 - ii. Funding sources: MassEVIP, Green Communities Grant (GCG)
 - d. VW Settlement Update (*Ms. Nace and Ms. McPhee*):
 - i. Ms. McPhee spoke with the state administrator of the program, Haidee Janek. No new municipal applications will be released in the near future. There is hope for another round of funding for municipalities at some stage in the future. It looks like VW funds have been spent in the past few years on EV buses for mass transit use throughout the Commonwealth. Ms. Janek said to keep consulting state reporting on the fund.
4. Policies: "Energy Efficient Building Policy" Update (*Mr. Magee and Mr. Pruitt*):
 - a. Mr. Pruitt reported that work continues on drafting a new policy.
5. Energy Revolving Fund:
 - a. Balance (*Ms. McGahan*): A little over \$33,000 was deposited.

- b. Rental Update (*Mr. Marron*): Ms. McGahan noted that the High School will be rented for the summer. *AI: Ms. McPhee to follow up with Mr. Marron.*
 - c. Potential projects (*all*):
6. Parkhurst Projects Overview (*Mr. Lawson*): Defer until next meeting
 - a. Heat Timer Boiler Controls:
 - b. Boiler Project Referenced at Town Meeting:
 - c. Gymnasium ASHPs:
7. Updates from EFPBC re New Lynch Building (*Ms. Soden and Mr. Kosterman*):
 - a. Owner's Project Requirements (OPR) Status:
 - b. Status of project: There is an EFPBC meeting tonight. The agenda includes several sustainable items, such as the inclusion of a dishwasher for reusable utensils and dishware. *AI: Ms. Nace will meet with Dr. Hackett re dishwasher and Ms. McGahan re compost.* Due to the building being heated with electricity, electric costs will go up; however, there will be no fossil fuel costs for heat. The electricity grid will consist of more renewables over time and will therefore become greener over time. Heat Pumps are more efficient than the older technology of baseboard electric heat. Also, there is the possibility of on-site solar plus battery storage. The new school building should be on line FY2025. They are discussing the energy modeling at EFPBC tonight. Ms. McGahan mentioned that Winchester has a fixed rate on electricity cost until FY2026. *AI: Ms. Gaiko to look at the energy modeling and inputs.* Energy modeling is fairly accurate but not always a good predictor because of the multitude of variables. EQuest is the software that is used for the modeling. Ms. Soden will keep EMC up informed on the different topics and priorities. Ground source heat pumps (geothermal) have such a long payback that it was decided to only pursue ASHPs. Ms. McPhee mentioned that she has spoken to Solect about the possibility of a PPA for geothermal for future projects.
 - c. Utilities Interaction Update: We have not missed the Schematic Design window in order to receive incentives.
8. Old Business update (*Mr. Lawson and Mr. Pruitt*):
 - a. Steam System at the Mystic School (WinRec Building): Defer until next meeting.
 - b. HVAC project fire side of Public Safety Building: Defer until next meeting.
 - c. West Side Fire: renovation and ASHPs: The contract is in DocuSign today and will be signed by the Town Manager. Horizon will order the materials.
 - d. Town Hall new boiler: Defer until next meeting
9. Schedule Next Meeting: Monday, August 15th at 5:00pm via remote participation

Respectfully submitted by Laura Turenne

