

Montague Energy Committee Minutes

May 15, 2013, 5:30-7:30pm

Town Hall downstairs meeting room

Present: Pam Hanold, Chris Mason, Jason Burbank, Sally Pick, Rich Adams

Absent: Tim Van Egmond, Susan Conger

Guest: Frank Abbondanzio

Approve minutes 3/26/13:

* Personal computers will be searched for minutes.

Reports by Chris, Frank Abbondanzio on ESCO, Green Community Grant:

* Green Community Grant paying for efficiency improvements at WWTF

Grant extended, since Siemen's has not followed through. Unless grant has been used, Montague cannot apply for the next round of grants.

Possible new grant idea: boiler at treatment plant, furnace @ Montague Center library. (Need more ideas.)

WWTF will do new equipment installations in-house.

Facility will not have building envelope improvements through Siemen's w/ Green Community grant: DOER wouldn't allow town to shift money from building to building.

Town hall seeing efficiency and cost savings due to switch to lower cost of natural cost.

* Measurement verification, longterm service agreement from Siemen's

Received operating manuals.

Service agreement is being finalized (Walter and Frank have copy)

Jason and Chris will review.

Strategic Energy Planning with FRCOG, MassCEC & DOER

* Walter will meet with FRCOG, MassCEC & DOER to plan it out.

* Public forums will take place over summer.

* MEC asked to come up with clean energy working group to identify best opps for energy efficiency and renewables; working group may meet about 3-4 times.

* Will provide town with GIS assistance to id resources

* 2 large forums per town to ask for input from community.

* Working group will help with outreach, digest information generated from forums, get info out into community, give info to facilitators.

Primarily to connect to community, not so important that they know about energy issues. Want people connected to different groups.

Pam will talk with Deb Bourbeau for ideas for working group.

Walter will choose working group.

Highlight specific ideas to town.

Looking for 5-7 working group members from Montague.

* Consultants, Meister, will report back to town on forums, energy planning ideas.

- * Represent contractors, seniors, low income, different areas of the town...
- * People that MEC recommends for working group: *Paul Voiland, Eileen Dowd, Ken Morin, *Pam Hanold, Pat Allen, Barbara Turner Delisle, Father Stan Aksamit, Sue Sansoucie, Joe Parsych, *Bob Escott (or someone else from one of fire districts), Mike Naughton, *Mike Nelson, Les Cromack.
- * Pam will talk with Walter about reasons for recommending each person.

Montague Center Library's new furnace

- * Pam will check with Carolyn regarding oil history.
- * Oil furnace needs replacing for next heating season: possible Green Community grant.
Pam will ask Sue Sansoucie to see if they have information needed for replacing furnace.
- * Chris will talk with Paul Voiland about replacing furnace.

Outdoor street lighting (report from Frank)

- * Request from business association for replacing lighting on Avenue A
- * Town had already met with contractor on topic.
- * Poles are about 30 years old, rusting, expensive to maintain and replace.
- * Have an estimate of ~\$100,000 with LED bulbs using same style poles as on bridge; will apply for community development block grant for funds. Would use downward projecting light. Fire district pays electric bills. Town will see significant savings for maintenance.
- * Rich will contact WMECO about whether or not LED replacements are available, if they have a rate tariff for LEDs.

Review process for taking minutes and posting agendas

- * Will come up with an agenda at end of meeting which will be posted immediately and added if necessary before the meeting.
- * Different people at each meeting will share minute-taking responsibility.

How we report to town residents on results of energy efficiency installations

- * Will be discussed at future meeting(s).

Other topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting

- * Sally reminded committee to bring to the next meeting ideas on how to spend Solarize funds for outreach.

Planning agenda for next meeting