

Montague Energy Committee

March 29, 2016 6:15-7:45 PM

Town Hall 1st Floor Meeting Room

Present: Chris Mason, Sally Pick, Rich Adams, Tim Van Egmond, Jason Burbank, Jeff Singleton.

Approve minutes 2-16-16: Tabled

Designate facilitator and scribe: Chris facilitated; Sally took minutes.

Update on FRCOG outreach/marketing RFP

Sally reported that she sent out to the MEC a winsert program announcement in Millers Falls from Erik Hoffner.

- Sally will check with Erik Hoffner of Coop Power re outreach to landlords.

Town energy issues:

Update on Park & Rec EE measures: No update.

Sheffield Audit - update/next steps

RFP went out, and town has selected Sebesta East to do audit.

Jason will check with Jim Huber at Sheffield re audit.

Shea Theater Boiler Upgrade –update/next steps

Select board voted in favor of additional \$ to fund HVAC project.

Town got Green Comm. Grant extended to June 2017.

Montague Center Library mold/roof problems

Article on Town Meeting warrant to address problem.

Chris will contact Linda Hickman re roofing project and to ask if they are considering insulation for the project.

Municipal aggregation

Sally reported that she spoke with Erin “ET” Taylor of Mass Energy Consumers Alliance who explained that even after the town has signed a contract with Colonial, they could add a % of green power for municipal aggregation. Rich will talk with a contact he knows about adding a % of green power supply to the municipal aggregation contract with Colonial.

Tree planting budget

David Detmold has been working on this.

During the meeting, Chris sent an email to David asking for an update on where things now stand with the tree planting budget, and what specifically he is requesting from MEC at this point.

Franklin Co Green Tour in Montague: No report.

Green Hero for Montague: No report.

Net Metering Letter

Legislative conference committee is to address the cap on net metering. Chris has heard that cap may be lifted by 2% soon, which would allow projects currently in the queue to get net metering, for roughly 3 months.

Motion: To approve the letter to the legislative joint conference committee negotiating the bill, with the final suggested edits.

K-M pipeline update, including Jeff Singleton's potential testimony at 3/31 DPU hearing

Jeff discussed hearing on survey rights taking place 3/31.

In reviewing related pipeline documents, he has not seen any data that shows that claim that pipeline will save money is valid. Asking MEC to consider having him present a draft testimony as a member of the MEC.

Motion: MEC endorse Jeff's statement as a draft statement from MEC to be presented orally to DPU 3/31. Passed.

Discuss item before Planning Board re: changes needed to permit solar panels in business district. Going before Town Meeting. Plan to discuss next meeting.

Other topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting

Plan agenda for next meeting.

Votes may be taken

Action items:

- Jason will contact Jim Huber re energy audit.
- Chris will contact Linda Hickman re roofing of bumpouts of Carnegie Library and if the plan includes consideration of adding insulation when the roofing is done.
- Sally will check with Erik Hoffner of Coop Power re outreach to landlords.
- Rich will talk with a contact he knows about adding a % of green power supply to the municipal aggregation contract with Colonial.
- Sally will send letter re net metering to legislative conference committee.