

## Montague Energy Committee

October 3, 2017 6:15-7:45 PM

Town Hall 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room

**Present:** Chris Mason, Sally Pick, Chris Mason, Ariel Elan, Tim VanEgmond.

**Approve minutes 9/5/17:** approved.

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

- Chart of Town facilities & which town entity controls their energy use:
  - Still no word on chart.
  - Chris attended Turners Falls (TF) Fire District meeting re exploring LED street lights (cobra head). Here's what he learned, to the best of his knowledge:
    - Turners Falls, Millers Falls, and Montague City street lights controlled by Turners Falls Fire District.
    - Lake Pleasant street lights controlled by TF water district.
    - Montague Center: unknown who controls; Walter doesn't know. Walter requesting help in finding out who controls these lights. Does tax collector know?
    - Hoping that chart will clarify ownership of street lights.
    - Eversource owns all street lights. Utilities mandated to reduce energy, and they're not meeting goals. No intention to pay for expensive LED lights, but motivated to lower energy use.
    - Meeting was about buying street lights to shift to LEDs.
    - Who would maintain and repair lights purchased?
    - Inefficient to have lights owned by a variety of prudential districts.
    - Good to evaluate which lights to keep and which to turn off/remove.
    - Eversource has inventory and GPS of all street lights; some lights are attached to electric/phone poles.
    - DOER currently has grant money to pay for LED street lights.
    - Likely will see significant electric savings, possibly 60%.
    - Chris will continue to be in contact with Eileen Tela of TF Fire District.
- Recommending a lifecycle analysis policy and solar-ready roofs for new buildings: tabled.

- Discuss a carbon fee & rebate resolution from Town, other MA climate legislation
  - Motion to bring GHG resolution, as finalized at tonight's meeting, to board of selectmen to request that they adopt the resolution and ask that they co-sponsor this resolution for Montague's Town Meeting. **Approved.**
- Discuss DPU docket 17-05, possible impact on Town solar
  - Committee reviewed initial email response from Kearsage. Sally will forward clarification she requested.
  - If prices tied to net metering credit, could try to change contract to a lease.
- Ave. A Illumination Project: color and directional shading? No report.
- How to compile clear and specific record of what turned out to be positive about the geothermal system at the public safety complex; what turned out to be unsatisfying to some users what measures have been taken to address any deficits; how have those measures worked out what measures still could be taken to help this system be widely viewed as success. No report.
- Discuss future directions, priorities of committee

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

- Discussed possible energy efficiency assistance for senior center.

**Plan agenda for next meeting**

**Votes may be taken**

**Action items:**

- Chris will talk with Steve Ellis and Rich Kuklewicz about supporting the GHG emission pricing resolution.
- Sally will send 2<sup>nd</sup> clarification from Kearsage to MEC re possible impact of DPU docket 17-05 on solar landfill project. May follow up again with Kearsage to understand if 17-05 would reduce the net metering credit to the Town.