

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

Montague Energy Committee

By Zoom, 4-5:30 PM

Present: Chris Mason, Sally Pick, Ariel Elan, Pam Hanold, Tim Van Egmond, Jason Burbank.

Chris facilitating; Sally taking minutes.

Approved minutes from Feb. 23, 2021.

Approaches to improving ventilation in buildings: No report.

Comments re state-level advocacy: Climate bill & Clean Energy & Climate Plan for 2030

- Sally and Chris sent to MEC members an invitation from the Sierra Club to sign on to their comments on the CECP, as individual town committee members.
- Sally and Chris gave a few examples of ideas for individual comments to the Executive office of Energy & Environmental Affairs, which wrote the interim plan. Comments can be submitted to EEA by 5pm, March 22nd, to gwsa@mass.gov.

Status reports

- **Renewable energy heating system for Sheffield/Hillcrest school buildings, CIC Assessment**
 - Buildings being assessed for bringing buildings up to code, HVAC upgrades & replacements, maybe weatherization upgrades.
- **Outdoor lighting upgrades to LEDs**
 - Mark Fisk of Montague Center Lighting Committee called Chris and told him they really do want to upgrade streetlights to LEDs and remove lights that are not wanted, to save on paying for lights that replace with LEDs.

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- Chris will send MEC an email asking if anyone wants to help look at Montague Center lights listed on a map he'll send out, to see if they're actually there and what pattern are you seeing (i.e., lights on every pole, every other, only at corner, no lights, potential places to take out lights).
- **Status of adjustments to solar bylaws**
 - Discussed DOER's model solar guidance zoning bylaws.
 - MEC will review these model bylaws and Montague solar bylaws to further discuss.
- **DPW Building**
 - Jason will run the energy use numbers at end of heating season.
 - Controls and monitoring: no significant new developments.

Tracking use of Massachusetts C-PACE: No update.

Announcements

- Pam will forward to MEC ventilation information from Chris Sawyer-Laucanno.

Plan agenda for next meeting

Other topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Votes may be taken.

Action items:

- Sally will send out draft minutes to MEC from 2/23/21.
- MEC members are asked to review Montague solar zoning bylaws and look at DOER model zoning bylaws (link in email from Sally on March 4th).
- Tim will email Steve Ellis to ask if C-PACE is being tapped.
- Pam will forward to MEC ventilation information for schools from Chris Sawyer-Laucanno.

Next meeting: Wednesday, March 21, 4:15pm (changed to 3rd Wednesdays)