

Strafford Energy Committee (SEC) Meeting Minutes

3/15/18

7PM

Town Office meeting room

Meeting called by: Doc Bagley

Type of meeting: SEC regular meeting

Facilitator: Doc Bagley

Note taker: Janet Cavanagh

Attendees: Doc Bagley, Janet Cavanagh, David Lutz, Gretchen May, Steve Willbanks, Jason Stableford

Next Meetings: — Meeting with Chris Damiani, Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission (TRORC): Thursday March 29 at 7PM in Town Office meeting room

— Regular meeting: Tuesday, April 10 at 7PM in Town Office meeting room

-May 8 Annual Upper Valley Energy Committee Roundtable, 5pm to 8pm At Montshire, Norwich.

Minutes

Agenda item: 02 16 18 minutes were discussed and approved. **Presenter:** Doc

Discussion: The Town Meeting warrant re climate change and reduction of fossil fuel use and encouragement for the state to implement 90% by 2050 passed overwhelmingly.

Agenda item: Enhanced Energy Planning for Town Plan **Presenter:** Doc

Discussion: Chris Damiani of Two Rivers Ottauquechee Regional Commission presented information at a meeting 02 19 18 with re developing an Enhanced Energy Plan to be incorporated into Strafford's Town Plan. Chris had sent an update which arrived just before the mtg. Doc proposed a sub-committee of those interested in the regional planning effort. Steve will serve as the liaison between the Energy Committee and the Planning Commission.

Agenda item: Strafford–Thetford Community Solar **Presenter:** Doc

Discussion: The PUC has approved the application for a Certificate of Public Good (CPG) for the Strafford–Thetford Community Solar project. There was some interest at Town Mtg. There will be a meeting at the end of March, possibly March 31, for more information and for the opportunity to buy shares. The Community solar project will be built this spring.

Agenda item: Update of Pocket Park nomination **Presenter:** Janet

Discussion: The letter from the energy committee and the Select Board has been signed. Janet needs to submit more information on line to the Vermont Urban and Community Forest Program.

Agenda item: Jim and Tim's Meeting on 3/14/18 **Presenter:** Doc

Discussion: Doc attended a meeting with Jim Masland and Tim Brigland who are interested in ideas for moving forward on climate change legislation that will pass.

Agenda item: Update on Stagecoach and EV's

Presenter: David

Discussion: Stage coach currently has buses going along the 89 and 91 corridors. They also do a dial a ride service for 60 and older and folks with disabilities. The service is provided by volunteer drivers. Also, VECAN has Way to Go and Connecting Commuters programs which will pay folks to carpool up to \$700 per car of over 5 people. We need to get more information to people in Strafford re these initiatives. We also discussed the many EV charging stations in the upper valley and the very low cost of charging.

Agenda item: Weatherization/Capstone/Vital Communities

Presenter Doc

Discussion: We discussed the beginning of a weatherization push in the fall, working with Vital Communities and joining with other towns in our area, maybe Tunbridge and Chelsea. Janet has a leaflet re the program from Capstone, who work mainly with low income people. Janet will follow up re those who receive fuel assistance.

Jason discussed GMP discharging his Tesla power wall in the middle of a snow storm. He is part of a pilot program and hopes that things will improve and become more customer friendly in the future.

Agenda Item: Zero down options for weatherizing and Solar

Presenter: Doc (Kevin)

Discussion: This was touched on with more information to follow

Agenda Item: Website with link to town website

Presenter: Jason/Doc

The town does not want a separate website for the energy committee. Jason and Doc will work with Lisa to improve the current website.

Agenda Item: Heat pump, geothermal, financial seminar Tuesday April 10 at 6pm, at Thetford Academy

The meeting adjourned at 9pm.

Respectfully submitted by Janet Cavanagh, (committee notetaker Jim Schley was unable to attend)