

**Minutes**  
**Dummerston Energy Committee**  
**Monday, March 6, 2023 @ 6pm**  
**Online via Zoom**

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:04pm:
  - a. Eric Lineback, Calvin Farwell, Doug Morton (joined late), and Alex Wilson were in attendance.
2. Welcomed guests:
  - a. No guests were present.
3. Reviewed agenda:
  - a. Calvin added one new item under New Business (see #12 below).
4. Approved minutes from the February 6, 2023 meeting:
  - a. Motioned by Calvin; seconded by Alex; unanimously approved.
5. Town solar power project:
  - a. We discussed next steps and agreed that we need to fully understand current electricity usage as a first step before moving forward, including the details and benefits of the community solar project that the town is part of.
  - b. We also discussed the idea of creating a solar canopy somewhere, perhaps as part of covered parking at the town garage or town office.
  - c. ACTION: Calvin will reach out to the town Treasurer to collect the needed data; including ideally usage data directly from GMP.
  - d. ACTION: Once we have analyzed the usage data and have an idea as to the town's current and future needs, Doug will contact 2-3 solar installers to get the ball rolling on proposals and estimates.

6. Covered bridge lights:
  - a. Alex and Eric met with Stan on the morning of 2/19 to finish the installation (final two gable lights); everything is working well.
  - b. In the future, when the data is available, we will conduct an analysis of electrical usage before versus after the switch to LEDs.
  - c. ACTION: Alex will reach out to Philips Gardco about getting a professional photographer to take pictures for their PR use.
  - d. ACTION: Eric will also take some pictures at dusk for the image collection.
  - e. ACTION: We will prepare an article for a future VOD newsletter.
7. Efficiency Vermont town energy assessment (Town Garage):
  - a. Stan has done some research on LED lighting options and will make a recommendation.
  - b. ACTION: Eric will follow up with Stan.
  - c. ACTION: Eric will check on Efficiency Vermont rebate requirements.
  - d. ACTION: We need to contact 2-3 installers to get the ball rolling.
8. Dummerston Community Center energy assessment:
  - a. No updates at this time.
  - b. ACTION: Alex and Doug will finalize their written report; Eric will edit the report and send it to the Community Center board and the SB for action.
9. VOD article:
  - a. The new VOD issue with our call for new DEC members is out; no responses yet.
  - b. See #10 below.
  - c. ACTION: Eric will reach out to folks who had previously expressed some interest.
10. Electric vehicles (EVs) and eBikes:
  - a. The new VOD issue with our request for input and feedback on a potential Ambassador Program is out; no responses yet.

- b. We will hold off on this project until we assess town feedback.
- c. ACTION: Eric will request that Laurie send out a town email as well and will collect any feedback.

11. Affordable Heat Act (S.5):

- a. Eric provided an update; we discussed the various pros and cons; the legislation is quite controversial.

12. New business:

- a. Calvin discussed various new battery technologies, including aluminum-graphene batteries and lithium-sulfur batteries; these and others are very promising and address some of the current issues with lithium-ion batteries, such as the sourcing and recycling of materials, as well as charge capacity and charging speed; we will continue to monitor related advancements.

13. Meeting adjourned at 7:53pm. Next meeting will be held on April 3, 2023 at 6:00pm via Zoom.