

Minutes
Dummerston Energy Committee
Monday, July 10, 2023 @ 5pm
Online via Zoom

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:09pm:
 - a. Eric Lineback, Calvin Farwell, Alex Wilson, and Doug Morton were in attendance.
2. Welcomed guests:
 - a. No guests were present.
3. Reviewed agenda:
 - a. No new items were added.
4. Approved minutes from the May 1, 2023 meeting:
 - a. Motioned by Alex; seconded by Doug; unanimously approved.
5. Town solar power project:
 - a. Calvin provided some updates, and we discussed possible options.
 - b. ACTION: Eric will upload the electric usage spreadsheet that was started several years ago by Stan to Google Drive, so we can all work on the data, and he will assist Calvin as needed.
 - c. ACTION: Doug will initiate contact with 2-3 solar installers to get the ball rolling on proposals and estimates.
6. Covered bridge lights:
 - a. Eric took some pictures at dusk for the image collection, and Alex sent them to Philips Gardco.
 - b. ACTION: We will prepare an article for a future *VOD* newsletter.
7. Town garage lighting:
 - a. Eric sent a draft of the final report to the committee shortly before the meeting.
 - b. The relevant Efficiency Vermont rebates are good until January 1, 2024.

- c. ACTION: Eric will incorporate any final feedback, make final edits, and then submit the report to Lee and the Selectboard for action.

8. New member search:

- a. No updates at this time.
- b. ACTION: Alex has identified a good prospective member and will reach out.
- c. ACTION: Eric will continue to follow up with folks who have expressed some interest.

9. Electric vehicles (EVs) and eBikes Ambassador Program:

- a. No updates at this time.
- b. ACTION: Eric and Doug will continue working on designing the program and coordinate with Kevin to implement it through the town website.

10. Affordable Heat Act (Act 18):

- a. Eric provided an update; Governor Scott's veto was overridden, as expected.
- b. ACTION: We will monitor the impact of the new law.

11. Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP):

- a. We further discussed the program and possible projects for the initial "mini-grant" program, including studying the creation of a town "resiliency hub" (possibly at the Community Center), doing further energy audits, and updating the DEC website.
- b. ACTION: Alex will continue working on the idea of a town resiliency hub.
- c. ACTION: Doug will complete and submit the application for the "mini-grant" program.
- d. ACTION: Eric will complete the survey on the energy assessment grants for the town; we expect to request assessments for the town office, community center, and town garage.

12. New business:

- a. We discussed a recent *60 Minutes* episode on carbon capture efforts.
- b. We discussed the future of the committee.
- c. ACTION: Eric will send a note to the Selectboard about our thoughts.

13. Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm. Next meeting will be held on August 7, 2023 at 5:00pm via Zoom.