

Minutes
Dummerston Energy Committee
Monday, February 5, 2024 @ 5:30pm
Online via Zoom

1. Meeting was called to order at 5:33pm:
 - a. Eric Lineback, Calvin Farwell, Alex Wilson, and Thomas Nolan were in attendance.
2. Welcomed guests:
 - a. Lee Chamberlin was present.
3. Reviewed agenda:
 - a. No new items were added.
4. Approved minutes from the January 8, 2024 meeting:
 - a. Motioned by Calvin; seconded by Thomas; unanimously approved.
5. Town garage lighting report:
 - a. We reviewed the report with Lee and discussed next steps.
 - b. We discussed funding options, including remaining ARPA funds, MERP funding, EV grants/rebates, existing DEC funds, and highway department budgeted maintenance funds.
 - c. We discussed using local vendors when and if possible.
 - d. ACTION: Eric will reach out to EV and WRC about potential funding.
 - e. ACTION: Eric will reach out to Stan about possibly doing the work and helping with bid specs.
 - f. ACTION: Lee will reach out to their insurance company about possible financial incentives.
 - g. ACTION: Lee will work on the bid specs and put together an RFQ.

6. Municipal Energy Resilience Program (MERP):
 - a. We have collected all of the energy use data and are compiling it into the required spreadsheet templates.
 - b. The town garage and Community Center assessments have been scheduled for 8:00am on 2/13 and 9:00am on 3/7, respectively.
 - c. ACTION: Doug and Eric will complete the data entry work.
7. 2024 Sustainable Energy for Schools and Municipalities (SESM) Program:
 - a. We discussed the “underserved community” requirement and related confusion.
 - b. We agreed that it is probably not worth pursuing this.
 - c. ACTION: Eric will send a follow-up email to the SB.
8. Potential new DEC members:
 - a. The candidate that Thomas had identified is not willing and able to participate.
 - b. Eric submitted a blurb for the next issue of *Views of Dummerston*.
 - c. ACTION: Eric will submit the same blurb to Laurie for town email distribution.
 - d. ACTION: Alex will reach out to Chad Farnum about potential candidates.
 - e. ACTION: Eric will reach out to Southern Vermont Solar about potential candidates.
9. Town solar power project:
 - a. Thomas got some initial feedback from GMP.
 - b. ACTION: Thomas will continue to follow up with GMP and do further research.
10. Town resiliency project:
 - a. Nothing to report from Alex at this point.
 - b. ACTION: Alex will continue developing the idea.
11. Powerwall versus generator assessment (pros/cons):
 - a. Doug was unable to attend the meeting; no update.

12. 2024 Environmental Common Agenda:

- a. Eric provided a brief update.

13. Renewable Energy Standard (RES) modernization bill (H.289):

- a. Eric provided a brief update.

14. Climate Superfund Act (S.259 and H.809):

- a. We did not have time to address this; postponed until the next meeting.

15. Thermal Energy Network bills (S.669, H.242 and H.669):

- a. We did not have time to address this; postponed until the next meeting.

16. New business:

- a. No new business.

17. Meeting adjourned at 7:08pm. Next meeting will be held on March 4, 2024 at 5:30pm via Zoom.