

## Minutes: September 8, 2014

**Group:** Brattleboro Energy Committee

**Attendees:** Lester Humphreys, Bob Rueter, Paul Cameron, Chad Simmons, Tad Montgomery, Michael Bosworth, Kathleen White, Ann Brinton, Jason Cooper

**Guest:** Ralph Meima, Laurie Cartwright

Topic	Discussion	Action
A). Call to order, Agenda review, Minutes approval (May 5, June 9, July 14)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Need approval of May, June, July, August minutes</li><li>-We need a quorum (6 votes) in order to pass the minutes. Member does not need to be at the meeting in order to vote on the meeting minutes, just have faith the minutes accurately represent what took place.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Approval of May 5<sup>th</sup> minutes as amended: 8 yay, 0 abstain, 0 nay</li><li>-Approval of June 9<sup>th</sup> as amended: 8 yay, 0 abstain, 0 nay</li><li>-Approval of July 14<sup>th</sup> as amended: 7 yay, 1 abstain, 0 nay</li><li>-Approval of August 4<sup>th</sup> minutes: 7 yay, 1 abstain, 0 nay.</li><li>-All motions for approval passes</li></ul>
B). Check-in, Introductions, Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-People's Climate March in NYC on 9/21. 15 buses going from VT. 3 going from Brattleboro, all are full, but there is a waiting list.</li><li>-Community Solar presentation and discussion on 9/22 from 5-7pm at Marlboro Graduate Center</li><li>-Renewable Energy Conference 10/16 and 10/17. There is a limited number of discounted tickets for energy committee members. Contact Julie. Julie Bellino at: <a href="mailto:Julie@revermont.org">Julie@revermont.org</a></li><li>-Electric Vehicle Conference on Saturday 10/25 from 3-5:30pm at MCGC</li><li>-Annual VCAN conference on Saturday, 12/6 in Fairlee at Lake Morey Resort.</li><li>-Lester and Paul officially presented the BEC awards to the home energy challenge and the check.</li></ul>	
C). BEC and Open meeting laws and passing motions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Paul met with Jan at the town offices to clarify the new open meeting law</li><li>-Once an agenda is warned, it cannot be amended. However, it can be amended after originally warned ONLY if the amended agenda is warned at least 24 hours before the specified</li></ul>	

Chad 9/13/2014 7:43 PM

**Comment [1]:** What does this stand for? Paul?

	<p>meeting day/time.</p> <p>-Question: Based on previous documents that went out to energy committee members, Tad thought it could be amended up until the meeting. Answer: according to Jan and the town attorney, once it is warned, it cannot be changed, unless it is at least 24 before the specified meeting day/time.</p> <p>-For anything to pass we need a quorum, "a majority of the open number of seats on the committee."</p> <p>-There is an open seat on the committee</p>	
D). Wood Pellet Plant Proposal-continued discussion	<p>-Table discussion until next month</p> <p>-Paul will check in with Tom Finnel if there is any action needed</p> <p>-Committee would be happy to look at any specific proposal in the future</p>	
E). Subcommittee Reports:	<p>Who's on our subcommittees:</p> <p>-Efficiency – Bob, Chad, Jason, Kathleen, Lester, Tad</p> <p>-Renewables – Jason, Lester, Tad, Lorie, David Schoales, Jed Leslie, Sheetal Chanda</p> <p>-Transportation – Kathleen</p> <p>-Energy Data – Jason, David Schoales, Ralph Meima, Jed Leslie, Lester</p> <p>-PACE – Ralph Tad, Bob</p> <p>-Project Atlantic – Ralph, George Harvey, Michael Bosworth</p>	
1). Energy Efficiency a. Town buildings, Home Energy Challenge grant	<p>a) Selectboard approved accepting and appropriating the HEC grant. There's 4 parts to it: retrofitting streetlights; insulating boiler pipes in public works garage; replacing lights in municipal center; installing programmable lights at water placement lights</p> <p>-Payback looks like about 2 years. Also, we will get \$1,600 of incentives from Efficiency VT</p> <p>-Russ Brown from the town is in charge</p> <p>-Request by Jason that all updated streetlights are "Dark Sky" compliant. Paul will check to see if it is compliant or if not, possible to amend proposal.</p> <p>-There is no money in the town budget</p>	<p>-Motion: BEC recommends to get prices and move ahead with the below a-listed projects and for all lighting to be "Dark Sky" compliant, by the end of FY15 (ends June 30, 2015). BEC specifically recommends doing the a-list items ASAP because the payback begins immediately.</p> <p>a) Move forward with immediately</p> <p>b) Do additional research on cost/savings, then move forward with</p> <p>-All in favor 8 yays, 0</p>

	<p>for energy efficiency.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-BEC is encouraging the town to change its purchasing practices to allow for the incursion of some upfront cost (i.e. more expensive lights) in order to achieve the optimal higher payback over the lifetime of the product/equipment.</li> <li>- Patrick and selectboard have asked BEC to come up with a proposal on what to do with the efficiency funds</li> <li>-The plan includes the next category of proposed action steps from the HEC grant proposal that will not be done as part of \$10,000 grant.</li> <li>-Paul has asked Patrick for input on this proposal and has yet to hear from him. Paul's suggestion is for BEC to come up with a priority list from this proposal</li> <li>-The town is looking to do asbestos remediation in the municipal building by the end of 2014. Is the money there?</li> <li>-Not sure if asbestos remediation is planned for other town buildings. Paul will check.</li> <li>-BEC will make recommendations, pending asbestos remediation based on cost/savings.</li> <li>-The Energy Efficiency fund is not a "use it or lose it" fund. It stays until it is completely spent. No plan to replenish fund yet. However, as BEC moves forward, we will create a track record to show how much efficiency will save the town. All that being said, the town/voters can take the fund away, if it sees fit.</li> <li>-Bob suggest we not recommend the whole list and prioritize our recommendations.</li> <li>-Tad provided list of contractors as part of the white paper he sent to committee and Patrick</li> </ul>	<p>abstains, 0 nays. Motion passes</p>
<p>2). Energy Data</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Compiling data for FY 2014 to compare with FY 2013</li> <li>-Will be presented at next meeting in Oct</li> <li>-There was a bit of a hold up because of the CVPS/GMP account number</li> </ul>	

	transfer	
3). Home Energy Video Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Chad is finishing the project and would like to enter the video in the Button Up Video Contest (deadline Oct 19)</li> <li>-Chad will screen for BEC on its Oct meeting for approval</li> <li>-If video is approved, Chad will submit for the contest and post on YouTube, Facebook and BCTV.</li> <li>-Chad would like to do some sort of web-based advertising to boost views</li> <li>-Suggestion to include pass the hat for advertising</li> </ul>	
4). Renewables a. Solar Tax b. Solar electric projects c. Electric car charging stations	a) Solar Tax <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-State and town property tax exemption update:</li> <li>-Paul found out that as our proposal to the town reads, we need to get approval by town meeting reps in 2015.</li> <li>-Is this proposal something the town (officials and citizens) would support? Not sure.</li> <li>-In large part, it depends on how this proposal/language is framed. Do we as a town want to support the development of solar AND encourage the town to invest in energy efficiency from the funds generated by the proposed tax rate?</li> <li>-Paul offered to check in with selectboard members and Patrick about this proposal.</li> <li>-Tabled until future meeting</li> </ul> b Solar electric projects i) Town put together an RFP for additional net metering credits (10 kw-500kw) in April. Selectboard approved RFP, but it was not sent out. Patrick asked if we wanted to wait and buy into the WSWMD 2.5MW project. Does BEC want to wait for the WSWMD or move forward with RFP process already started? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Various pros/cons for sending out RFP now.</li> <li>-WSWMD will lower fees for district members</li> <li>-For future agendas, add WSWMD project as separate item under the</li> </ul>	a)Town solar tax proposal motion: b, i.) Town RFP motion: Put on hold the RFP process in order to collect more information from WSWMD about the 2.5mw project. 7 yays, 0 abstains, 0 nays

	<p>Renewables section.</p> <p>b Solar electric projects</p> <p>ii) NextGen solar project update.</p> <p>-NextGen purchased GreenLantern and is moving forward with the Brattleboro town solar project. We have the option to get an extra 50kw, because of increased capacity. This would mean a guaranteed 12% discount rate from current cost.</p> <p>-The system is just big enough for Brattleboro (500kw) and is located in Westminster</p> <p>-Paul will ask if there is a deadline for this decision.</p> <p>-Some members are less inclined if this electricity is coming from another site. Suggestion to ask how many sites.</p> <p>c) Meters installed in August. Paul is checking meters monthly.</p>	
5). Transportation	-Roundtable meeting with businesses took place the first week of September	
H). Button-Up Vermont Day	<p>-Efficiency subcommittee will meet to plan any activities</p> <p>-Nov 1<sup>st</sup>, a day to promote home energy improvement efforts</p>	-Paul will call a meeting
I). Next Meeting	<p>Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup> 5-7pm</p> <p>-Topics: Workplan for the coming year</p> <p>-Put Project Atlantic back on agenda</p>	

**Energy Efficiency Improvements Plan  
Town Buildings and Facilities  
Fiscal Year 2015**

A - **Measure:** Retrofit 32 decorative streetlights in the High/Grove parking lot, Pliny Park, and Main Street Bridge from metal halide fixtures to LED fixtures.  
**Estimated Cost:** \$6,666.66 - \$1,280.00 Efficiency VT incentive = \$5,386.66  
**Estimated Savings:** \$1,888.00 and 16,000 KWH annually

A **Measure:** Conduct energy audit of Municipal Center, *pending asbestos removal*  
**Estimated Cost:**

A **Measure:** Conduct energy audit of Water Treatment Plant and Retreat Wells pump station.  
**Estimated Cost:**

A **Measure:** Conduct energy audit of Transportation Center.  
**Estimated Cost:**

A **Measure:** Conduct energy audit of Nelson Withington Skating Rink.  
**Estimated Cost:**

B - **Measure:** Install a variable-speed kitchen hood in the Gibson-Aiken Center kitchen.  
**Estimated Cost:**  
**Estimated Savings:**

B - **Measure:** Replace the commercial dishwasher in the Gibson-Aiken Center kitchen with an Energy Star model.  
**Estimated Cost:**  
**Estimated Savings:**

A - **Measure:** Install garage door seals at the Public Works Garage. *Handwritten: Total - 2000.00*  
**Estimated Cost:**  
**Estimated Savings:**

B - **Measure:** Build a wall around the small-engine repair area in the Water Treatment Plant. *Handwritten: Total - 2000.00*  
**Estimated Cost:**  
**Estimated Savings:**

A **Measure:** Install variable-frequency drive circulator pumps for the heat loop in the Transportation Center.  
**Estimated Cost:**  
**Estimated Savings:**

A **Measure:** Install low-flow showerheads at Living Memorial Park swimming pool.  
**Estimated Cost:**  
**Estimated Savings:**

**Measure:** Install more efficient pump at Living Memorial Park swimming pool.

**Estimated Cost:**

**Estimated Savings:**

B

**Measure:** Convert outdoor halogen lamps at Public Works Garage to LEDs.

**Estimated Cost:**

**Estimated Savings:**

A

**Measure:** Convert interior fluorescent lamps in Transportation Center to LED fixtures.

**Estimated Cost:**

**Estimated Savings:**

A

**Measure:** Convert rear exterior wallpack lights at Transportation Center to LEDs.

**Estimated Cost:**

**Estimated Savings:**

A

**Measure:** Install daylight controller in Transportation Center waiting room

**Estimated Cost:**

**Estimated Savings:**

A

**Measure:** Install photo eye for the light at the rear entrance of the Municipal Center.

**Estimated Cost:** \$90.00

**Estimated Savings:**

A

Dark-Sky Compliant

Ted - contractor list

Jason - pumps