

**Minutes: January 5, 2015****Group:** Brattleboro Energy Committee**Town Energy Coordinator:** Paul Cameron**Attendees:** Lester Humphreys, Bob Rueter, Chad Simmons, Kathleen White, Michael Bosworth, Jason Cooper, Tad Montgomery, Tom Finnell**Guest:**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>
A). Call to order, Agenda review, Minutes approval (Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 1)		Approval of Oct 6, Nov 3, Dec 1 minutes: 7 yays, 1 nay, 0 abstains
B). Check-in, Introductions, Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Integrated Systems subcomm will meet Tuesday, Jan 6.</li> <li>-Meeting of solarize comm on Wed Jan 7<sup>th</sup> at 5pm</li> <li>-Heat pump workshop Jan 12, 5-8pm</li> <li>-Tuesday Jan 20<sup>th</sup> regional energy roundtable sponsored by Neighborhood Heat Squad from 6-7:30pm. Discussion on thermal efficiency</li> <li>-Tad is in talks with the town to work with the sustainable energy program to finance high performing energy projects. Could save town money: much lower interest rates, much lower energy rates and prestige of pursuing this project. Recommendation to meet with the efficiency subcomm and report back to the full committee.</li> <li>-Biomass heating proposals are due on Wednesday Jan 7th</li> </ul>	
C). Annual Report to Selectboard	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> selectboard presentation was well received.</li> <li>-Selectboard approved the lifecycle analysis in theory.</li> <li>-At follow-up meeting (Dec 16), Patrick Moreland reported that all town heads were favorable on this approach</li> <li>-Patrick said the new town manager should be involved on this project.</li> <li>-Selectboard thanked the energy committee for bringing this to their attention</li> </ul>	
D). Subcommittee Reports:		
1). Energy Efficiency a. Town buildings, Home Energy Challenge grant b. Town Energy Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Town Home Energy Challenge grant work has been completed.</li> <li>b. Working on getting estimates for town energy efficiency plan. Working with</li> </ul>	b. Motion for Paul to follow-up with Patrick about where the process is for window purchases and how this may

<p>Plan c. Wastewater Treatment Plant</p>	<p>Patrick to get this draft plan finished, selectboard to vote on and send out. - Suggestion to replace windows at Gibson Aiken (reported in the Reformer from Nov 7<sup>th</sup>). We may want to follow-up and see where this is coming from and how it fits with efficiency audit proposal. c. Wastewater Treatment Plant. Keith Dewey gave us a list of 11 recommendations. A follow-up conversation was had about the micro turbine of the anaerobic digester. There are still tweaks being made to the micro turbine to improve operation and efficiency. -Lester asked if the micro turbine could be net-metered (rate 1) instead of how it is metered now (rate 2 or 3). Could save up to \$5000 per year, but that depends on how much it is producing. -Is there an adder for methane capture?</p>	<p>fit into the efficiency audit and energy work. -As we move forward, the energy committee is asking to be informed about energy related capital expenditures. Motion passed 8 yays, 0 nays, 0 abstains</p>
<p>2). Renewables a. Solar Tax b. Solar electric projects c. Electric car charging stations</p>	<p>a. Solar tax. Town can't move forward with solar tax income until Winstanley provides more information. Paul and Tad spoke with Katrina at Integrated Solar. Paul will also talk to Dan Ingold -Lester must remove himself from any solar tax vote b. Westminster project is up and running as of Dec 19. Supplying town with an estimated \$142,830 of net metering credits per year. Town has a capacity of \$273, 723 net metering credits per year (a little less than 1 MW would provide). -We've had a couple of offers: 1) Next Sun: 431kwh w/ 15% for 20 years. 2) Green Lantern. A) 450kwh @ 12.5% for 20 years. B) 925kwh @ 15% for 20 years. 3) WSWMD. Some proposals are coming in at the full 5MW. Can the energy committee see how the proposals are structured? Paul will follow-up with Bob at WSWMD. -The town is looking at the question, where are the credits going on an accounting basis. The town is waiting to sign up for another solar project until we see how it's working with the first</p>	<p>c. Suggestion to let the companies know where the town is at (town is waiting for a couple of months), and if anything is off the table, to let us know. 8 yays, 0 nays, 0 abstains. b. Paul to follow up with WSWMD</p>

	<p>project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Suggestion to let the companies know where the town is at (town is waiting for a couple of months), and if anything is off the table, to let us know</li> <li>c. Electric car</li> <li>-Town meters were installed Aug 15. Avg use is 361kwh per month at \$.14/kwh. Estimated cost to date: \$50.54/month</li> <li>-8 Tesla charging stations installed</li> <li>-1 being installed at Red Clover Commons (old Melrose Terrace)</li> </ul>	
3). Integrated Energy Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Looking at one of the benefits of a micro grid</li> <li>-Organized Jan 6 meeting</li> <li>-Would the town be interested in setting up a distribution utility, similar to Greenfield, MA? This would take a lot of convincing, but worth looking into.</li> </ul>	
E). PACE program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-PACE program has been re-designed. Interest rate is now 1-2%.</li> <li>-Paul suggesting we revisit PACE and try to have the town pass this year.</li> <li>-Upper valley putting on 4 workshops in the coming months. Paul suggest we hold a forum locally.</li> <li>-What is our strategy for moving forward with this?</li> <li>-Lester thinks this could have the biggest impact on town energy use.</li> <li>-Tad would like to see the state move forward on commercial PACE</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Paul will check in with Patrick about the recent changes and see if there is willingness to move forward.</li> <li>-Motion passes: 8 yays, 0 nays, 0 abstains</li> </ul>
H). Next Meeting	<p>Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> 5:00pm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Possible guests for Feb: new town manager. If he can't, Rep. Mike Hebert, member of the House Natural Resources &amp; Energy Committee</li> </ul>	