



Town of Huntington

Huntington Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 17, 2015 @ 5:30 pm

→ Town Office (Upstairs) - Huntington Center ←



Attendance: Dave Clark, Dan Stoddard, Ella Bisbee, Michelle McCutcheon-Schour, & Ross Ogilvie

5:30 *Call to Order & Agenda Review / Proposed Changes*

- The meeting started on time at 5:30.

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DATE

May 28, 2015

5:35 *Approval of Minutes*

- The committee approved minutes from the 2/17/15 HEC meeting

5:40 *Public Comment – 5 minutes*

- No Public Comment

5:45 *Car and Transportation Discussion with Michelle McCutcheon-Schour of VEIC - 45 Minutes*

- Michelle described what VEIC is doing and her role in the organization. This included a lengthy discussion about public transportation, busses, vans, carpooling, ride share, as well as electric and hybrid cars. The committee is not sure where we might go from here on the efficient transportation front. We considered another Forum or an Energy Fest. No decisions were made. Michelle said she would email Ross some information regarding what we have discussed. Ross said he could forward the info to the committee and put this on the agenda for next month to discuss after we have all had time to think about transportation and energy.

6:40 *Update on Logo 5 Minutes*

- Dave Clark mentioned the MMU students are starting soon on the logo project.
- No new steps with John Hadden as we are waiting for the Ideas to come from the MMU students?

6:35 *Brewster Pierce Elementary School (BPMS) Building Energy Upgrade Discussion – 5 Minutes*

- Ross mentioned the last meeting with the BPMS building energy committee and that they are working on a rubric for evaluating heating systems.

6:40 *Town Roof Buildings Solar Discussion – 5 Minutes*

- Ross mentioned getting the names of some solar companies from Aaron Worthley.
 - 1) Novus Energy: Lou & Alex Bravakis lfb@novusenergydev.com alex@novusenergydev.com
 - 2) Kelly Solar: Aaron Kelly aaronkelly95@gmail.com
 - 3) Green Lantern Capitol: Sam Carlson samuelccarlson@gmail.com
 - 4) GroSolar: Rod Viens rod.viens@grosolar.com
- Ross also mentioned he sent emails to all and got a response back from Kelly Solar.
 - Arron Kelly said the following in an email to Ross:
Basically two routes to solar:
 1. Town buys and owns solar panels (I think this will be the best deal for the town, but harder to make happen as funds will have to be included in the budget). +To evaluate the desirability of this option, I recommend

contacting a local installer and requesting a site visit and estimate from him. He can give you an idea of what the financial picture would look like. If you believe this is the best direction to take, I recommend soliciting competitive bids from multiple companies.

2. Town issues RFP or otherwise enters into a power purchase agreement where a private company owns the panels on the roof and the town buys the power from it. Doesn't require capital up front, but probably not as advantageous to town financially in long term. +Can see Waterbury RFP at -

<http://www.bgs.state.vt.us/pca/bids/pdf/RFP%20-%20Solar%20Power%20PA%20WSOC.pdf>

+Can see VLS RFP at - <http://www.vermont.org/main/wp-content/uploads/Vermont-Law-School-Solar-Procurement-RFP.pdf>

Significantly, with both of the above, the town must own the renewable energy credits (RECs) if it wants to get its power from solar energy.

Additionally, Vermont Law School's Institute for Energy and the Environment has a legal clinic that provides free practical and legal advice to municipalities seeking to go solar. I highly recommend reaching out. I am hoping to join the IEE's staff in the upcoming semester as well. [802-831-1151](tel:802-831-1151) or [802-831-1054](tel:802-831-1054)

6:45 CSA Discussion, – 5 Minutes

- Ross mentioned he has not gotten any detailed information from Suncommon as to why none of the potential sites we forwarded to Suncommon were acceptable.

6:50 Feedback from town meeting – 3 Minutes

- All of the color HEC handouts were taken and many of the black and white. We also got some kind words of appreciation from the select board.

6:53 Update on grant application to New England Grassroots Environmental Fund – 3 Minutes

- Dave and Knox have picked this effort up. No new news.

6:56 Other/New Business – 2 Minutes

- Ella Bisbee mentioned she was putting together a HEC News Letter for publication and that she send it out to the HEC members soon.

6:58 Wrap-up – 2 Minutes

7:00 Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned on time at 7:00