

WALLINGFORD ENERGY COMMITTEE  
Approved Minutes for February 6, 2024 Meeting  
5:30 PM in person  
*First floor of Town Hall*

Present: David Castonguay, Katherine MacLauchlan, Ken Welch, Ralph Nimtz, Doug Blodgett, Jay White, John Armstrong, Tom Fort

- Minutes from the 12/5/23 Energy Committee meeting were approved with clarification that the \$500 annual budget was approved by the Selectboard on 12/4/23.
- Town Solar Array
  - The Selectboard approved the Energy Committee's proposal on 2/5/24 to move forward with efforts to explore a town solar array and apply for a grant from the Vermont Sustainable Energy for Schools and Municipalities Program. Application deadline is 3/1/24 and work must be completed by 9/15/25. Grant size is \$25k-\$250k with 20% municipality co-pay.
  - Jay White confirmed that, if the panels are laid flat, the roof of the Town Garage could support the weight of the panels needed to generate the 15kWh grant maximum. The roof ridge runs North-South so the panels would be installed on the East and West roof slopes. The roof area exceeds the area required for the panels so they could be strategically positioned to maximize efficiency.
  - Solar generated electricity would be net-metered to the grid and the town would receive the resulting credits, which could be used to support the Town Hall, Town Garage, Transfer Station, and recreation field lighting.
  - Preliminary cost of the array is estimated around \$40,000, which would result in an \$8,000 co-pay from the 2025 town budget.
  - The Town Clerk will communicate total town electricity usage to David.
  - David will contact Solar Panel contractors for site analysis and cost projections.
- Town Hall Heat Pumps
  - Ken will forward heat pump technical specs to Jay for review and comment. Ken will then forward to David for communication to Selectboard.
- Budget
  - Contribution to the solar array copay and further analysis/optimization of Town Hall energy usage were discussed as potential options for deployment of 2024 Energy Committee budget.
  - Town Hall energy analysis/optimization could potentially include purchase of supplemental facilities management software/app to ensure optimal heating and cooling efficiency of individual spaces based on specific use needs.
  - David will communicate to the Town Administrator that the Energy Committee proposes that the remaining 2023 Energy Committee budget be applied toward the conversion of Town Hall lighting from fluorescent to LED.
- The meeting adjourned at 6:45pm.
- The next Energy Committee meeting will be held at 5:30pm on 3/5/24.