

WALLINGFORD ENERGY COMMITTEE

Approved Minutes for Tuesday, June 11, 2024
5:30 pm at the
Town Hall, 75 School Street, Wallingford, VT

Present: Ken Welch, Jay White, John Armstrong, Ralph Nimitz, Doug Blodgett, Tom Fort, Robbie Stubbins (by phone)

Nominate/Elect Chair and Vice Chair

- Tom Fort elected Chair
- Katherine MacLauchlan elected Vice Chair

Additions/Deletions to Agenda - None

Approve minutes of May 28 meetings - Approved

Public Comments - None

Town Hall Heating and Cooling

- Jay, Ralph, Robbie and Tom met with Bill Lohsen on site at Town Hall on 5/31/24. Heat pump requirements for 1st and 2nd floor were discussed as well as various options for supplemental heat. Robbie provided electrical recommendations to support Bill's HVAC design suggestions. Bill and Robbie provided associated cost estimates.
- Updated Options Table and draft RFP for Option 2 were reviewed and updated in preparation for 6/17/24 Selectboard discussion.

VECAN Summit Update

- Tom provided update from the 6/1/24 VECAN Summit including key points from 2 breakout sessions:
 - Weatherization and Beneficial Electrification
 - Efficiency Vermont provides free home energy audits (in person and virtually)
 - greensavingsmart.org helps to make connections with community action group coaches to coordinate home weatherization efforts
 - 3E Thermal is the Vermont agency for weatherization of rental properties. Could be initiated by landlord or renter
 - Solar for All
 - Federal Community Solar for All funding will arrive in Vermont in January 2025 and begin to roll out to communities mid-2025.
 - It will support partnerships with utilities as well as individual low-income homeowners who want to own their own solar panels.

New business from floor

- Jay provided update on propane boiler exhaust venting from Engineering Services of Vermont. Intake and exhaust will not be moved from its current louvered vent on the side of the Town Hall. Instead, the window above will be fixed to ensure code compliance.
- Tom provided update on 6/6/24 Clean Heat Standard (CHS) Public Gathering
 - 2021 VT General Assembly passed the Global Warming Solutions Act requiring Vermont to reduce its GHG emissions.
 - 2023 VT General Assembly passed Act 18 requiring Public Utility Commission to provide draft CHS rule to legislature by 1/15/25. Purpose is to reduce the amount of fossil fuel based heating in Vermont.
 - Companies selling fossil-based heating fuel will be required to obtain clean heat credits each year resulting in higher fuel costs for consumers.
 - Current GHG inventories show significant gaps between projected emissions and legal obligation for 2025 and 2030.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22pm

Next Energy Committee meeting will be held at 5:30pm 7/2/24 at the Town Hall.