

Montague Energy Committee

Town Hall, 1st Floor Meeting Room, 6:15-7:45PM

Present: Chris Mason, Sally Pick, Jason Burbank, Ariel Elan, Pam Hanold, Tim Van Egmond. Guests: John Koehler, Allen Kloutier.

Chris facilitating; Sally taking minutes.

Approved minutes from 12/4/18.

Renewable energy heating system for Sheffield/Hillcrest school buildings

- Not viable to complete by summer 2019. Process will take more time.
- Key question re Ariel: Can we heat Sheffield School with only natural gas (4th option)? If so, it would drop size of the project but also changes the cost of operating systems.
 - Pressure drops in natural gas have been occasional problem at school, so not clear this is an option.
- Tom Bergeron is very concerned about possibility of oil tanks leaking; reason why there's pressure to replace them or come up with an alternative way to heat schools.
 - Tom would like to know soon if there's an alternative to oil heat.
- Issue needs to go to Town Meeting when scope and cost determined.
- Scope of work for META grant? Have one engineer do heat load analysis to size equipment and have contractors use heat load analysis to cost out their individual technology? Plus want to keep in mind the possible costs of changing infrastructure.
 - Joanne Blier managing grant. Need to get her on board with getting quotes from individual contractors, since grant doesn't have enough funds to have one contractor coordinate entire process of getting quotes from different contractors.
 - Only 2 vendors qualified by Mass. Clean Energy Center to install biomass.

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- Jason thinks installers could provide basic costs of systems using efficiency info on technologies, but it's best to get vendors to come to schools to better evaluate site.
- Ariel will draft step by step summary on order of business, including and excluding Sheffield School
- Chris, Ariel and Steve will have conference call to discuss how to move the project forward from here.

Outdoor lighting upgrades to LED

- Chris met with TF Fire District & Montague Center Lighting District and provided them with a draft scope of work.
- They will review it and send comments to Chris.

Status of adjustments to solar bylaws

- No word from Walter.

Report on CIC meeting, if there was one since last MEC meeting: no report.

DPW building

- DPW Committee wants to get process going ASAP.
- If MEC wants to have input on META grant report, it may have to be between MEC meetings.
- Committee members can send input to one DPW committee member.
- Jason will talk with META grant contractor, engineer and designer re timing and initial visions/options.

New offer of help from UMass Clean Energy Extension: tabled.

Recommending a lifecycle analysis policy and solar-ready roofs for new buildings: tabled.

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Town buildings and energy infrastructure, including Sally's list of town energy projects: tabled.

Discuss future directions, priorities of committee, building membership— including scheduling meeting with Peter Wingate of Community Action

- Sally asked to add to agenda discussion on engaging landlords in energy efficiency.

Action items:

- Ariel will draft step by step summary on order of business for evaluating efficient heating options for Sheffield/Hillcrest school buildings, including and excluding Sheffield School.
- Chris, Ariel and Steve will have conference call to discuss how to move forward with with Sheffield/Hillcrest.
- Sally will email Walter re update on solar bylaws.
- Jason will talk with META grant contractor, engineer and designer re timing and initial visions/options.

Next meeting: Tuesday, Feb. 5, 2019