



Energy Committee

Town of Hinesburg

10632 Route 116 Hinesburg VT 05461

802.482.2281 | hinesburg.org

Meeting Date: April 2, 2019, 7-9PM

Location: Town Hall – Planning Office

Attendees: Chuck Reiss, Laura Capps, Bill Scott, Mike Webb

Notes:

1. Call to Order 7:16 PM
2. Public Comment 7:16 PM – no public comment
3. Additions/ Deletions to Agenda 7:10PM - 7:15PM
 - Recruit for Energy Committee 8:50-8:52 PM
 - i. Chuck to follow-up on Bill and Mike being present
 - ii. All promote open spot – we have one spot, possibly two if someone can take Laura’s spot
 - Packetized Energy via GMP for electric water heaters 8:52-8:54 PM
 - i. Committee is open to learning more. Laura to email Kate for more information.
 - H. 423 – 8:38-8:50 PM
H. 423 sponsored by Rep. Sarah Copeland-Hanzas, enables public institutions to participate in more than one net metering group and removes the limitation that they may only access 500 kW of net metering cumulatively. <https://legislature.vermont.gov/bill/status/2020/H.423> If you have anyone who would like to sign on, they can do so by emailing their name, organization, and town name to Nicole at energy@revermont.org.

Committees who have signed on:

Montpelier Energy Advisory Committee
Essex Energy Committee
Warren Energy Committee
Moretown Energy Committee
Waterbury LEAP
South Burlington Energy Committee
Peru Energy Committee

member of Thetford Select Board
member of Sharon Energy Committee
Energy Coordinator, Town of Waitsfield

Bill moved the committee support the H.423. No seconds.

Rest of committee to read the bill and vote by email. Chuck will communicate results back to REV if committee votes in favor.

- VT 350 Next Steps Climate Solutions Walk – 8:54-9:01 PM
 - Chuck will find out more and provide outreach through FPF on behalf of full energy committee
- 4. Discuss meeting minutes for Jan and Feb; approve minutes - held till next meeting
- 5. Act 174 discussion 8:19-8:30 PM
 - Concerns with the town plan updates from Act 174 being too technical in terminology and not community member friendly
 - i. Plan needs more introductory information regarding the newly included data/information resulting from Act 174 to be more understandable by the user – Bill to discuss concerns with Emily and come up with solution – proposed recommendation to include a new introduction, and to mention the data in the main text but keep the detailed data tables in an Appendix
 - ii. Bill to send committee an update from his discussion with Emily by April 30; committee to read Bill's updates in prep for the next meeting and revisit Emily's work
- 6. Discuss UVM progress, if needed
 - Mac interviewed a few committee members. Waiting to hear next steps from Mac.
- 7. Carbon Pricing 8:31-8:38 PM
 - Bill's summary: State decarbonization study concluded that the carbon tax by itself would not be sufficient for achieving the state's goals and that more important is the funding of programs. RAP's study drew the same conclusion that properly designed programs are more effective. The proposed tax increase isn't high enough to drive behavior change. No movement needed by committee.
- 8. Review vote from Town Meeting on energy resolution 7:17-7:34 PM
 - Only change is from "prohibit" to "discourage"
 - Next steps –
 - i. meet with the select board during a warned meeting to make the resolution an ordinance (or regulation) for the select board to vote on
 - ii. Chuck will talk with Phil (select board chair) to determine when this meeting can happen
 - iii. Prior to the warned meeting need to determine if we have jurisdiction as a town to deny a permit by talking with the town attorney – Chuck will discuss this with Phil as well to confirm next steps. Bill will look up dept. of public service procedures and relevant statutes. Chuck will then follow-up with select board to get on their agenda.

- iv. Bill will call Julie at 350 VT to find out what Bristol passed.
 - v. Need to respond to FPF questions that came in – Mike will compile the questions and respond.
 - vi. Bill, Chuck and Mike will coordinate offline in hopes of meeting with the select board in May.
9. Revisit 2019 budget, strategy and planning 7:34-8:18 PM
HEC Budget for FY20
- 1. Municipal Building Energy Assessment \$1,500.00
Work with Efficiency Vermont and other groups to review the energy efficiency of the town buildings, get estimates for the work to get done. Assess the renewable energy potential of the town buildings and get estimates to install renewable energy systems.
 - The three buildings we want to evaluate in 2019 to determine path to net zero are: police station, town hall and the fire department.
 - The path to net zero analysis includes: run through the Clear Tool (blower door test results from Chuck (no cost; Police station is completed already); lighting and general walk-through by Efficiency Vermont with recommendations (free), and modeling all energy inputs and possible outputs and identifying optimal scenario for maximizing solar, going to CCHPs, electrical efficiency and improving the shell balancing cost effectiveness based on experience by Tom Perry resulting in a recommended package of improvement for each building; cost ~\$500/building)
 - Laura to initiate Efficiency Vermont walk throughs and include Mike, Bill and Chuck on communication – Mike or Chuck to attend for sure, Laura to attend if available
 - Chuck to include Mike and Bill on BD testing
 - Chuck to include Mike and Bill on Clear Tool modeling
 - 2. Study and Outreach for Options to Heat and Electrify Homes. \$1,000.00
Working with UVM to analyze the present options for Hinesburg residents to heat and electrify their homes. Once the study is complete, produce a brochure and town wide effort to get the information to the residents of the town.
 - Not sure we will get what we need from the current UVM study. Can determine how we can get the data needed. Ideas include taking typical homes completed to date and interpreting using current energy pricing.
 - 3. Energy Efficient Workshops \$100.00
Two informational workshops at town hall.
 - Will be fall Button-up and Healthy Homes – need to determine optimal timing for attendance
 - Chuck will call Dick about the Path to Net Zero recordings
 - 4. Preferred Renewable Energy Sites in Hinesburg \$500.00
Research and outreach to assess good renewable energy sites in Hinesburg and move the process along to get preferred status for these sites.

- Discuss with Alex and move forward once we complete Act 174. (likely June/July)

Total \$3,100.00

10. Set agenda for May 7, 2019 meeting 9:02-9:04PM

1. Call to Order 7:00 PM
2. Public Comment 7:05PM - 7:10PM
3. Additions/ Deletions to Agenda 7:10PM - 7:15PM
4. Discuss meeting minutes for Jan, Feb and April; approve minutes 7:15PM - 7:25PM
5. Act 174 discussion 7:25PM – 8:25PM
6. Clear Tool presentation by Tom Perry 8:25 - 8:50
7. Set agenda for April 2, 2019 meeting 8:50-9:00PM

11. Public Comment – no public comment

12. Meeting adjourned 9:05 PM