

## Energy Committee Minutes

April 3, 2019

7 – 8:25 PM

Charlotte Town Hall

In attendance: Matt Burke, Rebecca Foster, Suzy Hodgson, Deirdre Holmes, John Quinney, Gerald Bouchard (Planning Commission), and Frank Tenney (Select Board)

- 1) The agenda was reviewed.
- 2) David Pill is not standing again for another term of service to the EC. He has been on the EC for 11 years and has made huge contributions, particularly in the area of improving efficiency and conservation in municipal buildings. He leaves big shoes to fill.
- 3) Minutes from the 3/6/19 meeting were approved without changes. RF to post.
- 4) Act 174/Updated Town Plan. The select board's first hearing has been continued twice—2/25 to 3/25 to 4/22. The second hearing will be set when the first hearing is completed. General agreement that Dean's comments on the Town Plan, shared on 2/15/19, are beneficial to the document but very much regret that they were not submitted last fall and incorporated into the committee process rather than in the laborious context of a public hearing.
- 5) Fossil Free Jamboree!
  - a) New date: July 21
  - b) Parade component of the Jamboree! to arrive to the library's book sale; we will have a tent for an information fair focused on fossil fuel-free locomotion (TBD if related topics, such as heat pumps and residential solar, will be included)
  - c) Rebecca and Deirdre will apply for a SCHIPs' grant, deadline 4/30, to pair with our "matching grant" of \$1,000 from the town. Dean says that a match is not required to use the funds, but still we will attempt to get one.
  - d) Need a graphic designer in case this becomes an annual event. Jenny Cole suggested.
- 6) Town parking. The library expansion will occupy some of the existing parking and create the need for more; the new health center across Ferry Road from the library might create an opportunity for more parking for town (the requirement is to have 5 spots for each doctor); the senior center is also discussing a need for more parking. General agreement that the town needs a comprehensive analysis of parking and its related functions, including a P&R, bus stop, EV charging, and bike support, rather than looking at isolated pieces of the problem. Peter Joslin is starting an ad hoc group to look at parking, and the EC would like to be a part of that to help expand the conversation. Deirdre will follow up with Peter.
- 7) Library expansion. Now that the bond has been approved (but not applied for) we discussed the various possibilities for putting the work out to bid, and whether that would include seeking alternative and more ambitiously "green" designs. The select board is looking to create an RFP; the EC would like to have input on the wording. David has said that even though he will not be on the EC he will be available for consultation; he would be extremely helpful in this process. Fritz on the SB is handling the RFP. Deirdre will reach out to Fritz to request he include David in the

process.

- 8) Fire & Rescue audit. The deadline was extended to 4/25; John expects to get two proposals; he will distribute them to all the committee to read. We need to be prepared to discuss and make a determination at the May 1 meeting.
- 9) Means to accomplish energy goals in new (not yet approved) implementation table. John has been researching how other towns are managing energy-related work; he has more to learn and review. John offered to make a skills matrix of the EC as against the requirements of the implementation table to see where our human resource strengths and weaknesses are; John will try to get a chart ready for members before the May 1 meeting. John's goal is to have a clear idea of the range of possibilities by the time we have our annual retreat in September. (Related, John will reach out to CCS to find out when they last did an audit for the school building.)
- 10) VCAC survey drafted by Matt and John; Rebecca and Suzy to finalize and submit by 4/15.
- 11) Budget review. Remaining in FY '19 is \$1700 for town building efficiency; \$1000 matching grant; ~\$600 education; and \$150 conferences and travel.
- 12) Charlotters interested in EC work. Nancy Millikans(sp?) on Greenbush Road who hosted a NESEA tour of her net zero retrofit house; Deirdre has met her. Matt Sargent, Suzy's neighbor, works at Efficiency Vermont and is an expert on stretch codes. Whom we pursue to fill the vacancy will depend in part on the skills matrix being assembled by John. Meanwhile, the select board will be interviewing someone who contacted Dean directly.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rebecca Foster