

ENERGY & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

April 16, 2019 Meeting minutes

Call to order:7:30pm- Attendees: Liz Bone, James Ryan, Dave Marinelli, Andrea Chasen, Rob Kapner, David Morse, Michelle Marantz, (guest-MaryBeth Bergeron.)

-MaryBeth came to speak to our committee about energy projects for the new adult center that need funding. Some suggestions were- permanent generator(\$137k), triple pane windows (50k more than double)- only 2% savings than double, electric vehicle charging stations, solar panels, defibrillators. Dave Marinelli asked about the heating/cooling system, did the OMR consider a co-generational system which can run on gas and it uses the excess energy to generate heat. MaryBeth would ask the OMR. James Ryan mentioned the idea of water turbines that create electricity, a new idea for clean energy creation.

The committee decided to recommend the following projects in this order, for the Green Communities Grant. James Ryan made the motion, Liz Bone seconded it. All in favor.

1. Solar Panels on either COA or DPW, whichever building will work the best. MaryBeth will ask OMR.
2. Charging stations for COA.
3. Solar panel covered parking (if it would work). MaryBeth would ask OMR.
4. Triple pane windows only on North side of building.

Commercial composting was discussed and will ask the building committee/SB/DPW to apply for a MASSDEP grant for a commercial compost dumpster, to be serviced by a local compost company. The hauling costs would be offset by the decrease in trash hauling tonnage costs. The grant is due the beginning of June.

James Ryan made a motion to recommend applying for this grant, Liz Bone 2nd. All in favor.

- Plastic Bags

Liz Bone gave an update. Liz will follow up again with Steven and Marie about the signs for all stores. Also the Transitions Committee agreed to give the town \$400 to purchase custom reusable bags for residents. The Energy Committee voted to give \$500. James Ryan made the motion, Liz Bone 2nd. 5-1 with David Marinelli dissenting.

Liz will try to find best deal on cloth bags or something that residents will truly reuse.

Pipeline update-Michelle Marantz- Good news-Both Holyoke and Northampton have opposed pipeline expansion therefore the need for expansion of pipeline not needed. (Reason given by gas company). Springfield is also holding a public forum on the pipeline on May 22.

Bad news- Tennessee gas and Columbia said publicly that they are now thinking of not expanding the pipeline on the West side of the river (Agawam), but instead expand more so in Longmeadow. They want to insert a plastic pipe within the steel and cast iron pipe already there. According to scientist, this is highly dangerous because chance of explosion. Technically there would be better pressure in town if they fixed all the leaks.

Attend May 14th Town Meeting.

Attend May 9th PVC Sustainability Forum at Gateway City

Also sadly, Rob Kapner is moving to Colorado in June, and will be leaving the committee.

9:15pm Adjourn-

Liz

Minutes approved on 5/21/19

Andrea made the motion, James 2nd- all in favor. (James R, Andrea C, Liz B, Dave M).