

Minutes for February 1, 2022 YARMOUTH ENERGY COMMITTEE (1)

PRESENT: Marilyn Holle, Joyce Flynn, Sandra Cashen, Robert Palmeri,
Barry Margolin Mike Duffy

TOWN STAFF: Kyle Pedicini, Economic Development Coordinator

PUBLIC: Mariel Marchand, Cape Light Compact, Power Supplier
Andrew Belden, Eversource Energy, Vice President, Solar Programs
Ronit Goldstein, Customer Relations

Joyce Flynn called the meeting to Order at 4:30.

Motion to approve January minutes unanimously approved.

Motion to hold meetings as remote was unanimously approved.

TOWN ENERGY PROGRESS: Kyle Pedicini displayed a spreadsheet that details how the town spent the initial Green Communities Grant., which was a little over \$191,000.00. Most of the projects were used to improve energy efficiency. The spreadsheet may be viewed at <http://yarmouth.ma.us/DocumentCenter/View/15783/Green-Communities-Competitive-Grant-Program-Opportunity-Notice> This report will highlight the top dollar amounts. These are some of the expenditures: the Senior Center high efficiency condenser for \$4,000, the high efficiency boiler at the Water Department for almost \$15,000. The high efficiency AC condenser at the Bayberry Hills Golf Club for over \$31,000, the circulation pump at town hall for almost \$9,000, and the replacement of the nonfunctioning heat pump for heating and cooling at the police dispatch. and funding towards electrical vehicles. Some of the money was used for administration of the grants.

These grants wrapped up the initial Green Communities funding which now enables the town to apply for the next competitive round of funding. A program opportunity notice will be posted in the next few days with key dates in the next year to detail items which may be selected for the next funding to achieve energy goals. Once the application is complete Kyle stated that he would like to present it to the Energy Committee to hopefully obtain a letter of support for the proposed goals.

Minutes for February 1, 2022 YARMOUTH ENERGY COMMITTEE (2)

CAPE LIGHT COMPACT-CLC: Joyce reported that the Cape Light Compact governing board will meet on Wednesday, February 9th at 2 PM - 4:30 PM. It is expected to be able in February to announce the official release of the new rebates for heat pumps.

SOLARIZE PLUS YARMOUTH: Joyce updated the committee that Sunrise Solarize Plus program now has 49 contracts for solar. There are currently long installation delays due to inclement weather and employees on sick leave due to COVID. The volunteers are going to meet with the vendors tomorrow at 10:00. For the next meeting the Compact will be addressing the heat pump latest rebates

REORGANIZATON FOR 2022: Voted and approved

Joyce Flynn chair

Mike Duffy vice chair

Marilyn Holle secretary

EVERSOURCE COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT : Andrew Belden addressed the committee and said his role is implementing a new section in the general laws of Massachusetts that allows Eversource to own more solar when it is coupled with energy storage. There is a new solar low income trust that is being established through legislation and there are some changes to the way property taxes are calculated for solar installers storage product projects to try to clarify and regularize some of the property tax issues in the state. This is a huge bill with 150 sections but this discussion is specifically about section 777, which is related to utility owned solar. This really wants us as a utility to be building solar projects that support community resiliency. When bringing this to the department of public utilities it has to be partnering with communities to design and develop these projects.

This needs to be projects that are on land that we own. There also needs to have goals specifically like job creation, system resiliency and decreases demand reduction. The legislation has a directive to develop projects that support environmental justice communities.

Minutes for February 1, 2022 YARMOUTH ENERGY COMMITTEE (3)

EVERSOURCE COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT CONT:

This designation is defined by proportion of minority residents, for the portion of English or language isolated residents, or the portion of low income customers in those neighborhoods. Also communities that are at high risk due to climate change. These directives should be developed at no cost to local governments. The three requirements regarded as 'must haves, are system resilience, job creation, and partnering with local government.

Andrew spoke on the Eversource property on Willow Street. They are proposing a 2.1 megawatt solar canopy over the existing parking lots and a 200 kw hour battery which would be able to operate for four hours of time. They do have generators on site but want to add additional redundancy while reducing the use of diesel generators.

The project would sell electricity to the grid and would sell energy renewable energy certificates. That revenue could be dispersed as bill credits, potentially to low income customers. There are also plans to put plantings around the chain link fence to improve the appearance of the site. They plan to revisit the committee as plans develop further.

Next meeting: March 1, 2022 ZOOM remote meeting. Adjourn at 6:01