Minutes of Energy Commission Meeting June 17, 2015, 4 pm

Present: Fitz, Chip, Bob T., Karen, Eric M & Dave S.

Order of Business

1. Water Dept.

Discussion continued re Water Dept. issue of why high propane usage. Chip agreed to follow up with Mac to gain access and see if several commissioners could tour site/s with Mac.

1. Portfolio Management

Karen continues collection of data. Now has information on Hwy Garage off-road diesel usage.

Report may be completed by end-of-year, June 30, 2015.

Issue raised about Profile and Lafayette school energy usage not part of this project because of regional nature of school system, although the school’s energy consumption very significant part of Town’s total.

Discussion of possibly factoring pro-rata share of school energy costs.

Progress of boiler installation and removal of oil tanks prior to 2016 deadline at Lafayette also discussed.

1. Profile Solar

Fitz outlined update of a proposal of 699 KW pv installation on Profile School site and how agreement would be structured. No initial outlay, Profile buys power at reduced cost; opportunity to buy installation after 6 years.

Discussion of how to get School Board more involved in order to move forward.

4. Realtor Letter

At last meeting, a discussion of feasibility of attaching notice of rebates and energy audit requirements to permit process. Following on was whether feasible to compose letter alerting home buyers of potential energy rebates; approach local realtors and report back at September meeting.

1. Eversource

Eversource (formally PSNH) have finally replied to enquiries re LED relamping. Policy of no re-lamping by the company. Instead, Town contracts with installer and Eversource rebates $100 per LED.

Other related issue of turning off selected poles also discussed. Suggested that poles be marked prior for a period to give residents notice of intention and chance to object.

Safety services to be consulted/decide which lights to be shut off.

David S. to be point person in the future.

1. Solarize

Bob T. has made some initial calls to local installers. Also, Ammonoosuc Regional Energy Team want to launch a solarize program January 2016.

6. Pellet Boilers

Library open house to be held in late August to view new pellet boiler. Question discussed whether Energy Commission should be promoting pellet boilers locally.

New Business

1. Planning Board

It was agreed to work on adding an energy chapter to the Town master plan.

Suggestion to submit questions for new 10 year plan in letter to residents. This to be researched for September meeting.

Suggestion to also look at other town’s plans and divide up various town plans between commissioners.

1. PV Arrays & Zoning

Issue of whether pv arrays could be considered a nuisance? No rules barring it in Franconia zoning. Suggestion to check other town’s rules to see how it’s dealt with.

1. Annual Report

Agreement to start doing Annual Report in September for January 2016 submission.

Any Other Business

Dow clock back in commission. Clock now chimes every hour as well.

Meeting closed 5:10 pm