**FRANCONIA ENERGY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**February 18, 2020; 4:45 pm**

In attendance: Karen F, Eric M, Chuck L, Fitz, Dave S, Kim C

Absent: Chip S, Bob T

Eric read a letter from the Town attorney stating that all the donors to the Northern Pass Defense Fund need to be contacted and asked what they want to happen with their donation, which is no longer needed. It was suggested that donors be given a choice: (a) refund; (b) donate to the Energy Capital Reserve Fund; (c) donate to another worthy Town cause. There are 134 donors and Eric will get a list from Holly. Refunds have to be a pro rata share of the total. There was discussion about whether the FEC should undertake this work. The consensus seemed to be willing.

Warrant Article #18 in this year’s annual report will create an Energy Capital Reserve Fund and be funded with $500 to seed energy saving initiatives. It was suggested that next year a warrant article be created that will appropriate an amount from the savings realized from the LED streetlights after debt service is factored in. This year, the after-debt-service amount is approximately $3,680. A 50/50 split between Town and Energy CR was suggested.

Eric will contact Gilbert Brown of Freedom Energy Logistics and try to reschedule his Community Choice Aggregation presentation for the April 21 meeting. In the meantime, members should review the National Renewable Energy Laboratory study sent by Eric earlier.

Karen will contact EEI and schedule a visit and preliminary building inspection for sometime in April. Everyone will be notified of the date so they can join in.

DES Water Audit – no new action. Karen will attend Water Dept meetings to learn more about the system and share the urgency of saving more energy in this area. Between electricity and propane, the water system spends approximately $21,000 per year on energy.

Profile High School Solar – A 344 kW system of 894 Hanwha 385 watt panels funded through a Power Purchase Agreement with Barrington Power of Barrington, NH, will be on a warrant article at the Profile School annual meeting on March 19. It is sized to meet the current load, but there is room for expansion in the future. An informational meeting will take place at PHS on March 3 at 6 pm.

With all the town meetings happening in March, there will be no FEC meeting.

Next meeting: April 21, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Foss