

FRANCONIA ENERGY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
October 19, 2020, 4:45 pm

In attendance: Eric M, Chuck L, Fitz, Kim C,
Chip S, Bob T, Dave S

First topic was a follow-up discussion on proposed new building behind town hall. Subjects included the town budget, a possible 2021 grant submission by next June, and possible additional sources of finance. Funding from Town should include a proviso concerning possible grant/s from other sources.

It is planned this project will also encompass other work such as re-grading the adjacent parking lot. Importance of locating the existing waterline under the proposed site also stressed. Bob to schedule future meetings re this project.

Energy improvements: Bob explained possible residential grants from Eversource for energy conservation improvements. Online initial energy audit available. Fitz suggested contacting other towns for their insights for promoting the program.

Financing projects: Discussion if street lights have been paid for already, put a percentage of the savings into the capital reserve fund for future projects. A discussion of remaining donated Northern Pass monies, it was suggested it might possible to ask donors permission to use the funds for capital projects or for Water Dept.

Suggested someone attend the next Water Dept meeting. Fitz said he might go.

Discussion of Lafayette School, the school already completed a lighting upgrade. If a new roof is required in the future, it would make sense to investigate possible pv panels at that point.

Other solar discussion included the Raise Green initiative where individuals in community invest in solar projects. Eric will try to set-up a "Raise Green" presentation for the next meeting on November 17th.

Benchmarks: With Karen gone, volunteer needed for spreadsheet data inputs. An update every three months would be sufficient.

Any Other Business: Eric: the Town is looking at the possibility of EV charging stations around town.

Next meeting: November 17, 2020

Respectfully submitted,
David Strange