

Mason Energy Commission Minutes

May 7, 2018

Present: Members Kathy Chapman, Liz Fletcher, Dave Morrison
Alternates Garth Fletcher, Marina MacIntosh, Curt Spacht, Doug Whitbeck

Meeting began at 7:10. We discussed choosing officers. Liz Fletcher agreed to be Secretary. Curt thought that Darrell Scott would be an excellent Treasurer and will ask him. No one present was interested in being Chair. Perhaps members Michelle Scott or Michele Siegmann might be interested. Kathy was interested in being Co-chair on action items but not Chair.

Garth Fletcher presented the results of his very comprehensive data gathering on town energy use, along with his reports on the thermal camera imaging he did on the Mann House and Town Hall. Many heat leaks were found. Garth recommended shutting off water to the upstairs kitchen at Town Hall which is seldom used, then base temperature could be set at 45 instead of 55 as it is now. The degree days chart showed this could cut heating fuel use by nearly half. He recommended getting a programmable thermostat that can be operated remotely from Select Board office so Town Hall heat could be ramped up before meetings.

The biggest town energy expense is for vehicle fuel at the Highway Department, \$25,813 in 2017 from the Town Report. Curt asked how we can save here? Can't cut back on vehicle use, storms very unpredictable. Dave said there's a workshop on Green energy-saving vehicles June 1 at Loudon Speedway he was thinking to attend. Doug would like to go too.

Dave has heard about grants that may be available for low energy vehicles to off-set the purchase cost. He'll check further on this.

We need to know more about grants that might be available for energy saving measures. Henry Herndon of NH Sustainable Energy Association can advise local Energy Commissions. Liz will ask Henry to attend the next Energy Commission meeting June 4th to talk about possible grants and loan programs.

The Commission discussed how we could help plan for energy efficiency at the new Highway Department building being built this summer. Selectman Bernie O'Grady is in charge of this project. Dave will ask him how the Energy Commission could help with researching energy efficiency. Possibilities for energy savings with heating system, hot water, insulation, lighting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.