

MASON ENERGY COMMISSION MINUTES, NOVEMBER 2, 2020

Attendees: Richard Stockdale, Liz Fletcher, Garth Fletcher, Michele Siegmann, Dave Morrison, Curt Spacht, Kathy Chapman, Darrell Scott, Michelle Scott. Joe Harney, and Mike McGuire

Minutes were approved, after Liz Fletcher moved to approve, and Michelle 2nd. Roll call was taken.

Shelburne process evaluation: Meeting was held 10/29/20 with Darrell, Kathy, and Henry Herndon and Melissa Elander from Clean Energy New Hampshire. Mike McGuire will work on giving us a quote for a solar for Town of Mason Highway Dept. He will send us a quote including the state parameters on net metering. Kathy asks if there are any modifications needed for the roof in order to install solar. The structural engineer feels it would work. Slope is not due south, but slightly west. By adding a panel or two this will work for generating enough energy. The energy company won't give the premium for peak demand, but will the garage have to pay a premium? Many questions about the best way to manage the use of energy, and demand charges.

Kathy will check with the conference recordings to see if she can get a recording of other Energy Commissions. Darrell will check websites for other Towns to see who has info about the how the energy is used. Melissa from Clean Energy said that there is another organization like HAREI called PAREI. But Shelburne used "603" Solar.

Mike suggests that we tell the BOS that we are going to investigate solar for the Hwy Barn to save money. Darrell will send the energy costs for the Highway to Dave. Dave can check with Ray and Michael from Shelburne to get a few more facts.

Kathy will find out about the tax reduction for municipalities.

Mike will put this together with the data, and see if it is viable. The others mentioned above will get info to Mike and keep the project going.

Virtual Tour update: Darrell has finished up the school, and now he's working on geothermal at Bob Dillberger's. This is requiring some extra research to make this info clear. Sumitra Haynes (Linda) is also going to participate in the tour. She has passive solar in her house, and her neighbor has also has passive solar, plus.

RF 100: Some discussion but general feeling that we should put our energy into The Sierra Club warrant. Kathy sums it up that we will wait to join in this until we have our solar project data together to see if something we can do.

Citizens Climate Lobby: The consensus is that it's too political. And that it is a federal level concern. It is a great idea to tax the energy sector, and give the dividends to the people.

Website for energy info created by citizens who are interested in saving energy for Mason citizens. Michelle will continue to explore more about home site positioning and plantings for best energy savings. Joe will be writing some basic info on wind, and postings up to date info. We will post info on solar saving and info on our solar exploration for saving money for Mason. Our solar tour is on there. Advertising: Kate will do Instagram, Twitter, and FB.

Building inspector handout: Liz has developed a perfect 2 page document for the Building Inspector to hand out which she will add one link for the NH Tree Nursery spring sale of trees every year. (Michelle will send)

Meeting reports: Michele attended the Planning Board, new development with 5 50-acre lots. And Liz says there is 40 acres of conservation easement for the wetlands in the area. Dave attended the BOS meeting. BOS approved of Ron Dube's choice of names for Marshals pond and Black Fly Brook along with others for bogs and streams in his neighborhood. These names will be passed on to the people in charge (U.S. Geologic ?) for consideration for future maps. The BOS voted to accept the Hollis Communication price increase of \$1,000 more per year, for the next 3 year contract. Cost will be \$36,050/year. BOS will check into prices for Fiber when it becomes available thru Consolidated. Currently the town splits cost with school to share their fiber for Mann house and Police department. Last year's tax rate will rise from 26.24 to 27.01 or thereabouts. BOS voted to change the short term disability coverage for town employees. Current policy pays 66.67% of wages up to a max of \$450/week. New policy will pay up to max of \$1,000/week depending on salary. Cost was less than \$1,000 increase for a year. Added value for town employees. BOS discussed if some unanticipated income from health trust and Cares act could be used to address the Jeds Lane bridge which has some erosion problems discovered recently. Brenda will check to see if there are restrictions. MEC links to website was brought up under old business. None of them have had time to really check it out. They have a lot on their plates right now and until they have more time to consider it they will table it. A slippery slope was mentioned and Pete said he had talked to some towns that had to rewrite their town website policies after getting into troubles. BOS agreed to sell our old dump truck, 078 to an interested party for \$1,000 after receiving an offer from Rydemore truck sales for the same amount. Money will go into the general fund. Town Report will remain the same printed size book. The winter clothes drop off box that traditionally had been in the library couldn't find a home anywhere outside that would be out of the weather. The Horse sheds in back of church were suggested but they ended up suggesting drop offs be made elsewhere, in Greenville or Milford.

Michele movd to adjourn, and Dave seconded. Roll call taken, and the adjourned at 9:07.