

Meeting Minutes (approved 5/30/18 5-0)

Energy and Climate Committee

Wednesday, May 2, 2018, 7:30pm

Planning Department Room

Members present: Tom Sciacca, Ellen Tohn, Harvey Michaels, Bill Huss

Associate members present: John Harper, Kaat Vander Straeten

Ex-Officio member present: Ben Keefe

Guests: Cammy Peterson and Nicole Sanches, MAPC

Call to Order by Chair at 7:40 pm.

There was no Public Comment

CP Peterson presented on

- **EAA Planning Grant process.** The Committee debated that the new Council on Aging Building, being an existing building retrofit, would be an interesting challenge. MAPC can help with language for RFP to architects/designers. This could be useful for other towns as well.
- **Net zero:** The committee entered into a discussion about the designation “Net Zero” and MAPC explained their understanding of the term and their goal of 80% emissions reduction by 2050. Committee agreed that having a goal will help with the next grant cycle and long term strategy. Will approach MAPC and MassCEC about this.
- **Alternative Energy Credits:** CP explained what these are. Committee discussed how these AECS could benefit the Town Building HVAC project. CP and BK to confer about some language to share with architect/designer. Committee and guests also brainstormed about who can help evaluate these designs.
- **Electric buses:** CP talked about the DOER pilot with Concord and Cambridge. Not much data out there yet. There is an RFI out about the Volkswagen settlement money: ET will write letter and run it by Selectmen.
- **Community Solar:** JH presented the rough idea. Committee discussed the need for a template for the RFP, possibility of the town being the anchor group, if not the Town, then another group. BK will look into the process. CP said the MassCEC is interested in this too. Besides “shady neighbors” we also want to address low-income families. JH and KVS to take the lead on this. Invite Resonant Energy (Isaac Baker) to our next meeting to get some ideas.
- **EAA Municipal Vulnerability Grant** (deadline, May 11): This is state funding to develop Climate vulnerability and action Plan. ET moved and TS seconded *that the Committee support an application for the Municipal Vulnerability Grant pending an assessment of the advisability to do so.* KVS to attend next day's EAA listening session to make such assessment. *All in favor.*

Project updates – BK presented on:

- **Streetlights:** getting a good deal, coming in below budget. Maybe enough money left over for a second hybrid/EV. BH will interview BK and write article.
- **TB Lighting:** all materials are in and department heads have agreed on a schedule for replacement.
- **Bus hybrid conversion:** will happen this summer.
- **Resiliency Grant:** JH working with BK to help Ameresco secure Eversource approval of design.
- **Town Building Heating/Cooling** was discussed earlier.
- **DOER Grant Extension** is in: we have another year.

Miscellaneous Business

- Committee agrees to invite Resonant to next meeting to discuss solar.
- Next meeting scheduled for Wed May 30, 2018

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Minutes taken by KVS.