

Town of Essex  
**Energy Committee**  
Minutes  
**Wednesday, May 12, 2021**  
7 PM

Present: Will Dodge (chair), Natalee Braun, David Skopin, Irene Wrenner, Michael Fink ; Tom Yandow; Guest: Dottie Bergendahl; Absent: Phil March.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE.

Minutes of April 21, 2021 were approved following minor edits.

Dottie Bergendahl indicated she would be submitting a request for committee membership to the Selectboard. Irene Wrenner indicated her willingness to sign up for a renewed term, for which the Committee members were very grateful.

II. SUBSTANTIVE.

A. Presentation to Selectboard re: Energy Plan and Priorities. The Committee discussed the upcoming plan to present before the Selectboard a combination of achievements / focus of the Committee during the pandemic (including several key projects completed by Tom Yandow), a dire warning regarding the severity of the climate emergency (via David Skopin), and several items that the Committee would like to see the Selectboard (and the Village Trustees) adopt as priority items / projects to fit the goals of the energy plan.

**Action Items:** Communicate via email proposed presentation / ideas in preparation for Selectboard meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup>, subject to final confirmation from Greg Duggan.

B. GMP Seminar Re: Municipal Incentives. Michael Fink reported on a videoconference hosted by GMP (and specifically Graham Turk) focused on incentives for municipalities who want to transition to electric vehicle charging, electric school buses, and other electrification projects, highlighting the rebates. It was noted that

GMP is one of the cleanest utilities in the country (95% carbon free). Discussion was had regarding potential demand management items to assist with peak time to help save money, take advantage of lower rates.

**Action Item:** Set time to invite GMP representative to Committee meeting to explore ways of encouraging demand management and/or storage solutions to assist with peak.

C. Net-Metering. Will discussed where things were left with Jim Jutras and Dennis Lutz regarding potential use of additional net-metering capacity for the Town and Village.

**Action Item:** Discuss at May 17<sup>th</sup> meeting with Selectboard.

**Next Meeting:** June 9, 2021 at 7 pm.

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