

## Notice of Meeting/Hearing

Inhabitants of the Town of Northfield, you are hereby notified there will be a meeting of the Energy Committee

Location: Town Hall

Date/Time: Tuesday, May 14, 6:00 p.m.

### Meeting Notes

Attending: Judy Wagner, Susan O'Connor, Annie Chappell, Andrew Vernon, Alex Strysky, Jim Toth.

The meeting was called to order at 6:03.

Review and unanimous approval of April 16, 2019 meeting minutes after several corrections and additions were made.

#### Updates

##### **Clerk-of-the-Works update on Green Communities. Jim Toth**

- Met with Tom Dexter from Palmieri to do a final walk through at PVRs of the 4 de-strat fans. There are rave reviews of how much a difference it makes. Reo-stat dial can go fast to slow or off and it is generally on low until a crowd is in there. NES de-strat fan is working well also.
- At PVRs, we have reduced the 14 transformers and down to 6. Tim Brandl, facilities manager, said that the machines used to be hot to the touch, but not with the new transformers.
- But the motors and drives at PVRs has been hard. Palmieri couldn't do it as they needed HVAC, so ECI got another contractor to do this, and we hope this gets done this week. Replaced 2 motors and all new controls.
- Talked to Joe Schaeffer from ZeroDraft who is in charge of NES final insulation effort with mono-glass. He is ready to come in on June 17, or might have to wait till July 8. There are only 4 rooms that the mono-glass effects and one is not a classroom. Joe has really liked working with Mono-glass.
- Judy mentioned that she talked to Peter Blake, who is still so excited about how great Zerodraft was to work with. He found another space in the corridor/hallway section in the connector area that has no insulation. Jim will talk with Zerodraft to see if they could add that in without extra cost. Judy also noticed that there is daylight at door going into cafeteria.
- Warwick effort is attic access. In the unheated portion there are tons of utilities, including sprinkler system. Ben Weil had suggested insulating the floor, and now have come full-circle and doing the floor with blown cellulose and some poly-iso on the walls. Might go to R60 if they can and if not R48. Work on the access area is being done with volunteers. Arctic will do HVAC and ABS after June 14 when school closes.

##### **Electric aggregation. Susan**

- We want to recommend a slightly higher green mix as the base, as well as offering options to opt up, opt down, and opt out. Susan will make sure that Andrea is ok with this. If so, we don't want to do the survey because we think that it would be hard for people to fill it out without having all the background information. Judy suggested we create some clear, strong talking points for presenting to the Select Board and for other communication. This could include these points:



*We have entered into the aggregation because we feel it is in alignment with the mission statement of the Energy Committee to reduce carbon use and stabilize costs for town energy use. We also believe that it helps to increase the local control of our energy use. We have the following goals in aggregation:*

- To tap our collective buying power to increase renewable options and to maximize choice for our residents
- To accomplish this and still offer a rate that is the same as or lower than the current rate we are paying.
- To insure no change for solar owners.

#### **Additional updates or issues**

- Judy spoke with an energy engineer at MA Save, Students at UMass about what we do next and part of our planning process. Bill Womeldorf is willing to get together and is willing to see if he could be helpful to us on Solar issue with PVRs. Judy will set a time to meet. Susan will check with Andrea about how we might get funds to cover cost of a comprehensive audit.
- Town meeting issues (e.g. Highway Department vehicle). Article 19 on Town Warrant \$30,000 for the purchase vehicle highway department. Judy suggested we send out memo first, and then find out who is responsible for signing off on this. Andrew suggested that we have an educational effort about the toll on the environment of idling. Messages from the Energy Committee could be a good direction and could go up on Next Door, Town web site, at our September 14 event. Annie will research idling and how much gas you burn, how much CO2 that puts into the air, and how much particulates. (When picking up your child at school, when at transfer station, and town vehicles). Creamie fact board.

#### **Planning for education and outreach for Green Communities effort**

Date: September 14, 2019

What: Annie's list (see below) and Annie's passport idea

Slide show: Andrew

Town Hall events: Bob Pasteris for Pellet boiler, air source heat pumps, winserts

Creamie: Judy

Children's program

- Musician's Jo-Anne Wilson Keenan, honorarium \$200
- Children's activities: Alex, Andrew, Susan. 10 Things you can do at home
- Book table

Information for families about how to talk to children about climate change

Core event at 45 minutes

- 10-minute slide show
- Have numbers of what we have accomplished
- Raffle and passport idea

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Next meeting is June 18, 2019