

Mason Energy Commission April 5, 2021

Present at the Meeting: Kathy Chapman, Curt Spacht, Liz Fletcher, Michelle Scott, Dave Morrison, Darrell Scott, Dick Stockdale, Joe Harney, Garth Fletcher, missing Michele Siegmann, and Kate Messer.

Roll call: We did the roll call of members, and acknowledged the Right to Know information.

Dave moved we approve the minutes for March, and Kathy seconded the motion. We took a roll call vote of members, approval was unanimous. (note: we have not approved Feb minutes yet...)

Darrell says BOS was ok with the energy audit idea with the 250 meter for Highway Building. They would not pay for an electrician to do it, but they would buy the device to do it. The presentation to BOS on March 23<sup>rd</sup> started with MEC saying they have noted demand charges, and that's why we are interested in getting an energy audit for the highway building. But due to a significant delay in allowing Michele Siegmann into the meeting (nearly 9pm) her presentation was shortened, and the BOS brought up the Eversource lighting charges again. The MEC reputation from the lighting issue, is really not our (MEC) fault. Darrell says the Eversource charges were for 4 buildings, and 4 loans, and he finally got ahold of the right person, they said "oh look, we have been double billing for the loans"! Darrell says he laid out the case for Brenda in a spread sheet so she could review it, and at that point she understood. When we got the info from Eversource that the loans would not increase our bill, as the cost of the loan would be covered by the savings. The issue is still not clear as of March, but Darrell anticipates resolution soon. Brenda has offered the town electric bills for monitoring so Darrell can continue to see if Eversource has made the corrections.

Garth says the Eversource info was that the bills would not go up, and the loans would be paid off by the savings. How fast will the loan get paid off depends on the Eversource. Darrell will summarize the contract information and the information regarding the double billing, to present in the next month or 2 when the bills are straightened out by Eversource. He has conveyed this to Brenda Wiley the accountant for the Town. So far, the numbers that they promised are not what has been shown.

Next steps: Darrell will follow up, and report back to MEC

Monitor for the Highway dept to determine where the energy is going, and so that the machinery does not increase the 'demand' charge. \$20/month for 6kw are the present demand charges, and this may be manipulated if the highway department can avoid using certain equipment simultaneously for greater than a ½ hour time frame.

The monitor device is \$150 + electrician cost of \$400. Dave feels we may be able to get the electrician pro bono. The demand charges are those over 5kw. (Fire Department bills had one high charge in 2020). Total Highway Barn charge /yr is \$2980 for 2020(not including the loan charges), + 2 street lights. Fire Department was \$2000. What costs could we affect? FD has installed 2 mini-splits recently, and this may affect their fuel bills, but raise electric bill. (Probably still a savings.)

So when we can find an electrician who would do the work, we do have the acknowledgment of the BOS to go ahead. Dave will check with electrician. Darrell suggests that we trade an infrared evaluation on the electrician's house...

Street Lights: MEC will look into replacement with cheaper lights. We should consider some kind of lighting that will not affect lightening bugs and will not illuminate the atmosphere, and maybe even solar powered?

### **What long term goals should we aim for?**

Charging station in town?

An electric police cruiser

At least one building in town buildings that is solar paneled.

Short Term Goals

HAREI solar Webinar? June? Garth will ck on it. (HAREI is a **NH**-based, non-profit organization of **volunteers** intent on implementing more efficient and sustainable **energy** practices, with a focus on renewable **energy**.) MEC plan seems to be to feature one of HAREI recordings as a part of a ZOOM meeting, and promote it around town. (did I get this right?)

**Social media:** 1. Michelle will check on the personal solar stories of Mark Arseneault, Patricia Cross, And Marc Stroms and Dick Stockdale could report of their electric cars—all the ups and downs? 2. Michelle will post updates on the 3 Mason FB pages when Curt sends them out

Flyer for MEC website Marina’s lightening bug—Maybe Kate, and some inspired MEC member can come up with a design for a flyer that we could have in the Town office, County Store, Pickety Place, and Parkers?

**Thinking of the future:**

Earth day, post solar info on 22<sup>nd</sup>

New invention windmill. Kathy mentioned the new design for a windmill that works on wind vibration. Maybe we can get some info on this on the website.

Dave made a motion to adjourn at 8:58 and Kathy seconded the motion The motion was approved unanimously.

<b>What</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>When</b>
Check on forwarding from outlook to personal emails bcc	Kathy	4/6
Find electrician to install monitor	Dave	
Get logo from marina (pre-cursor to putting stack of pointers to website @ town hall)	Curt	Sent email
Look up dates for HAREI	Garth	Done
Questions for stories, draft - > MEC	Michelle	4/13
Recruit social media expert	Kathy	
Put earth day event on		