

Monday, March 7, 2016-5PM
Grantham Town Building
Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room
300 Route 10 South



The regular meeting of the Grantham Energy Committee was called to order at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 7, 2016 by co-chair Chenevert.

Member Present: Paula Bresnick, Jenna Chenevert, Kristina Burgard, Peggy Martineau, Donald Fitzpatrick, Michael Salo and Andy Gelston.

Guest: Kimberley Quirk and Anita from Energy Emporium

The Co-Chairs suggested moving Kimberley Quirk's presentation to the fore of the agenda with the committee in agreement.

Kim Quirk had taken a survey of Town Properties earlier in the day regarding potential solar electrical generation. She said the Town Hall had one good section for roof mounts, but the size may not be sufficient to meet all the energy needs of the building. The Fire Station has a much larger roof allowing for more substantial solar gain. The schools has two roofs and the Post Office has very good orientation. She spoke of the possibility of ground mounted panels at the capped landfill and the Rec. Fields which would require ballast and adjustable legs.

Kim also stated that there are reasonable recoveries for Municipalities and grants available as well. The issue before us is the net metering cap and the utilities have hit the maximum. There are two legislative bills currently before the House and Senate that would raise the cap.

Kim described the distribution of electricity with Eversource as the the power source for the solarize program. She indicated that a house can generate 5KW and that is acceptable to Eversource, but if there are 10 houses on one road that might not be acceptable. The Federal rebate is 30% of qualified solar installation and the NH rebate is 50 cents per KW with a \$2500 maximum. Individual residents have the most to gain as Municipalities do not qualify for the Federal rebates/credits. In concluding, Kim mentioned the use of PPA's, third party and leasing as other possibilities for the town and suggested working with Sarah Simonds of Vital Communities and Norwich Technologies.

The Committee returned to the agenda.

Approval of February Minutes: Fitzpatrick moved to approve the February minutes and Bresnick seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

Correspondence: none

Old Business: Co-chair Chenevert reported that Melissa White, Town Administrator, had told her the 50% discount on the lighting was not currently available, but the lighting warrants would not affect taxes.

New Business: Plans for a Solar Forum were discussed and a possible date of May 10th was proposed. Co-Chair Chenevert will check out the availability of the Town Hall for that date. Methods of advertising and communicating the event were also discussed.

A short cut for our website was requested by Geltston.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the GEC will be on Monday, April 4, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Adjournment: Martineau made a move to adjourn. Bresnick seconded it at 6:10 p.m.