



Minutes

October 15, 2015

Present: Mark Mullins, Brendan Welch, Suzy Enos, Taissir Alani, Margot Fleishman, Legna Mariñez, Carrie Sarno, Aubrey Jaffer
Absent: Amy Lloyd
Minute taker: Suzy Enos
Guests: Chris Rabinowitz

Mark presented the minutes from May. Carrie moved to approve. Brendan seconded. Approved 6-0-0.

Community Choice Aggregation

Mark and Margot attended the MAPC Clean Energy forum yesterday in Boston. Mark tied to Elizabeth Lydon, a hearing officer at the DPU. She said the approval from 1998 was still valid and it did not have to go back to town meeting for another vote.

Margot suggests we get in front of the selectmen as soon as possible to educate them on the topic. We should know if we will join the MAPC RFP or develop our own.

Margot commented that we pay dues to MAPC, so we should look at making use of their expertise. Mark expects even if the towns choose a broker as a group, they each execute a contract separately by town.

Aubrey noted the MAPC contact mentions green energy, but the Bedford contract does not. It was agreed we want to include green language in our eventual RFP.

Suzy motioned that the ETF recommends Selectmen to choose one of the vendors that is selected from the MAPC RFP process vs issuing a separate Bedford RFP. Carrie seconded. Passed 6-0-0.

Suzy will put together an education plan on opportunities to share information on the CCA program. Suggestions include a table special town meeting, library talk/library display, thanksgiving football game, Bedford cable TV.

Margot will email Rick Reed and copy Mark requesting time on the selectmen's schedule.



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News!

Ruthie Bennett has been working one day a week in Bedford as our Energy Manager. She has accepted a job as Director of Facilities for Arlington. Taissir has someone who is covering Energy Manager duties for now, but is looking to replace the position.

Energy Policy Update

Carrie clarified the intent of the term 'Energy Committee' referenced in the Energy Policy. There was some confusion about whether this team was comprised of town staff or a permanent version of the Energy Task Force. The Energy Committee are town staff from all staff levels with the focus of improving occupant behavior.

In support of the Energy Policy, it may be appropriate to convert the Energy Task Force from an ad hoc committee to a standing committee with three year terms.

Who will organize and run the Energy Committee meetings? It's important time is well-used for those who attend.

Engagement and outreach, road shows and other ways to get town staff involved will be needed. Department head meetings, staff meetings are options.

Should we release document first or start outreach first? Taissir is already building interest and identifying staff people who could be on the Energy Committee. We will talk more about this at the next meeting.

Vehicle Replacement Guidelines

Brendan provided comments on the existing policy. Vehicle take home policy is best understood by Bill Moonan. Some vehicles are hoping to be phased out, while others will remain due to job duties.

Electric vehicles should be included with hybrids as target vehicles for town purchase. Taissir mentioned that Town Hall will be adding an electric charging station when current construction is completed.

Vehicle Non-Idling Policy

Selectmen were asked to sign a contract for a new vehicle. Margot asked Roy Sorensen if this vehicle could be fitted with non-idling technology. Roy is open to use this vehicle as the pilot. Roy and the police chief will discuss.



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New Business

School committee has opted to no longer send a liaison to the Energy Task Force. From Mike McAllister, the School Committee is re-evaluating committee assignments. He felt that he wasn't adding value. Carrie motions that we invite Superintendent Jon Sills join us in an Energy Task Force meeting after the Energy Policy is released. Suzy seconds. Passed 6-0-0.

Mark is volunteering for the MAGIC Climate Change Task Force. This committee will evaluate the impacts of climate change on local times.

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be November 12th.

Margot moved to close the meeting, Brendan seconded. Approved 6-0-0.