

Energy Committee Meeting

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Town Office or on Zoom @ 4:30 pm

Committee members present: Yvette Meunier, John Berry, Nancy Chandler, Nick Whatley, Victor Langelo.

Others: Skye Siladi, Town Planner. Meg Rasmussen, MCOG.

Agenda

Invitation for Public Comment

Approval of [3-26-24 meeting minutes](#). John Berry suggested a correction. Nancy made a motion to approve as corrected. Nick seconded. All voted to approve.

Old Business:

Update from Meg on GHG data. The goal of the 2010 plan was to decrease the 2008 GHG emissions by 20% by 2030. The preliminary current data shows a decrease of 28% from 2008. Differences in methodology could account for some of the difference.

Transportation decreased from 90K to 38K tons. Residential energy doubled to 30K tons. Commercial energy almost doubled to 21K tons.

Our consultants developed Clear Path used for heating data

Overall Municipal energy decreased by 27%. Largest decrease in building and facilities (66% decrease) while transportation increased.

Maine DOT detailed vehicle counts in Topsham not used. Rather an estimate based on larger state numbers was used.

In the 2010 plan, Victor reported that a survey on fuel use was conducted with about 200 respondents.

Need more info on energy efficient actions the town has taken already. Skye mentioned that Topsham has 3 hybrid police cars now.

Will look at high impact actions for community, EC come up with actions we should take to make our goals, get examples of real actions already taken. Cut emissions by 2030 20% is state goal, EC choose our goal.

Meg will have forecasts and preliminary actions for the next EC meeting. HG and potential actions with municipal staff and public. Jessica and Julie give us data on hazards and risks for July meeting. Meet with them end of May to plan first public presentation. Where, who, what EC sets venue with powerpoint and tables.

Nancy volunteered to talk with depts like schools , fire dept, transfer station to corroborate our GHG data. Ask depts what changes have they made. Meg will give us how '21 data was gathered, what's included in the data.

Take Meg's data on new dept emissions, to ask Mark what measures town took that have changed and help confirm its accuracy.

In Sept EC will present GHG inventory and potential actions to public and town officials.

Jessica Bruncanini MCOG social vulnerability

Committee and FB Environmental will hold a workshop in July to gather information on risks and prioritizing climate actions. EC will pick the date and venue. Library was deemed most appropriate if available. Consider a Tuesday as the first option.

Discussion of when to close the survey concluded with selecting May 30th. Survey response increased after the Town Cryer landed in mailboxes, after tabling at Solid Waste Facility and after Yvette's activities on Earth Day. Victor will post flyers at Topsham Trails and Recreate Fields. Yvette will suggest a date to table at the Solid Waste Facility again in May.

New Business

In the May EC meeting we have a presentation from MTA High School students.

6/22 10am-noon tabling at Library Birthday Party

2nd Invitation for Public Comment

John Berry made a motion to adjourn. Nick seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:54 pm.

Reference items:

[community engagement plan.](#)

[outreach contact list](#)

May meeting

Yvette to ask Library what dates they. Tuesdays? Thinking 80-100 at the library. Venue for July meeting, need a date, need verbiage about the details of what we are doing at the meeting - power point & tables.

Committee needs to ask the departments what happened with their emissions since 2008. Meg to share info with Victor to draft something that Skye will send to the town staff. We need to know what measures the town took.

Survey should close in May 30?

Victoria to make another FB post. - picture of flowers

Yvette to make email address list of contacts

Victor to get a sign in the kiosk at the transfer station trails and at the rec dept.

PTA? Yvette to solicit.... Ask Victoria.

Booster club - MTA football folks?

Transferstation tabling in May