

Energy Committee Meeting
Tuesday, September 27, 2022
Meet in upstairs conference room @ 4:30 pm

Agenda

Roll Call

Invitation for public comment

Approval of [7/26/22 meeting minutes](#)

Old Business

1. Update from Nancy
 - a. Adult ed weatherization program
 - b. Electric busses
2. Update from Planning Dept.
 - a. LED streetlights
 - b. MCOG regional sustainability planning
 - c. GOPIF update
 - d. Library projects
 - e. Waste reduction grant
 - f. ReCode update - Link to [PDF](#) to discuss.

New Business

3. Appointments to the committee, elections of officers
4. Revisit [Guiding Principles](#) and begin discussion on a [work plan](#)

Invitation for Public Comment

Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 26, 2022

Meet in upstairs conference room and via Zoom @ 4:30 pm

Roll Call

Present: In person: Kate Burch (staff), Jenn Curtis, John Berry; and Zoom: Yvette Meunier, Nick Whatley, Victor Langelo, Nancy Chandler

Absent: Jared Entwiste

Invitation for public comment

Motion to approve 6/28/22 minutes made by John Berry and seconded by Nick. Approved with Jenn and Nancy abstaining.

Old Business

1. Our Power Event Reminder: Our Power Consumer Owned Utility campaign event is happening at Flight Deck from 5-7 pm on Wednesday, August 3rd. [RSVP here.](#)
2. Update from Nancy
 - a. Adult ed weatherization program
 - i. Two part virtual program. 10 participants so far from Topsham, Freeport, Brunswick. Efficiency Maine, Habitat and Window Dressers. 6:30 - 8:00 Wed Aug 3 and Aug 10.
 - b. Electric busses
 - i. New superintendent is on board. Planning on putting in grant applications for buses and infrastructure. Will let us know if there's anything we can do.
3. Update from Planning Dept.
 - a. LED streetlights
 - i. Contacts are signed. Taking tour with Dennis. Handover of street lights from CMP will happen in September. Audit of street lights. 20 missing so far.
 - b. Intern priority projects
 - i. Theo doing street tree survey. Finishing project on impact fee.
 - c. Western Maine Transit
 - i. Possible TIF money available. Research ridership. River Landing survey. Ask Mark what the projects are covered under the TIF and amount assigned to each. Nancy to connect with Craig with Western Maine Transit.
 - d. RE-CODE update and invitation to CPIC meeting on Thursday, August 11 at 6:30 pm
 - i. Alot is general code cleanup of existing code and moderization. Aug 11 planning board meeting will kick-off.
New planner expected to start in Mid-August.
4. Fall GOPIF grant: Solar workstations & education program

- a. Application due. Sept 30th. Revising priorities grants. Appear to be interested in community cooperation. Community limit increased to 125K.
Electric mower for recreation. Can the same charging station be used for mower and car?
- b. Review [solar workstation models](#)
- c. Brainstorm educational programming using this [form](#).
Flesh out full array of education opportunities.

Invitation for Public Comment

Reminder: NO MEETING IN AUGUST

Topsham Energy Committee

Mission: The Topsham Energy Committee researches and informs the Topsham Select Board on matters relating to energy efficiency and other sustainability matters. Under their direction, this work includes:

1. Research and recommend strategies, policies, and projects to the Select Board that will achieve energy conservation and thus reduce Topsham's energy costs and greenhouse gas emissions.
2. Offer public information, education, and outreach on energy conservation and renewable energy.
3. Evaluate and employ energy conservation practices with our residents, schools, and business community to align with the goals and strategies of the Maine Climate Council.

Focus areas:

1. Promote renewable energy use and installation;
2. Sustainable design and construction;
3. Weatherization;
4. Car chargers;
5. Beneficial electrification;
6. Transportation;
7. Regional collaboration and partnerships;
8. Green business development;
9. Carbon sequestration in forest and farms;
10. Climate adaptation; and
11. Others as identified by the Select Board.

Meetings:

- Fourth Tuesday of each month
- Begins at 4:30 pm
- Up to 1.5 hours

Membership:

- Up to 7 members
- 3-year term limits
- Staff Liaison(s) – Andrew Deci and Rod Melanson

Project	Term	Assigned	Needs	Resources	Grant Deadlines
solar on the landfill			Fund a study	GOPIF grant	March 2023
municipal ev purchases			When are vehicles up for purchase. Need a timeline.	Current EM program https://www.energymaine.com/electric-vehicle-rebates/	
ev charging stations				Nov. 17 EM grant due or EM program	
Solar on the library				GOPIF, and fed rebate of 30% in 2023!	2023
beneficial electrification purchase policy					
energy audit at the town buildings				GOPIF	March 2023
install heat pumps in the town buildings					
adopt western maine bus system				TIF?	
climate action plan update				Intern, MCC	
window dressers				GOPIF	March 2023
solar kiosks around town and library				GOPIF and Library Grants (ask Susan)	?
electric busses for the school			Infrastructure, EIN #	Future EPA program	?
ReCode	Short				
compost area expansion at solid waste facility				DEP grant	February 2023
facilitates long-term planning/capital improvement planning			provide input to town's long-term budget planning		