

CETF Minutes 2/14/22

4:00pm, Virtual

1. Call to order: 4:01PM
2. Attendance: Brian, Jen , Ruth, Erin, Tobin, Kristen, Sirohi, Margaret 4:04pm, Norm around 4:30
3. Approval of [Minutes from 1/24/22](#) (V): Brian moves to accept the minutes as presented, Tobin seconds. Jen, Ruth, Brian, Tobin, Kristen, Erin and Sirohi approve.
4. Adoption of Agenda (V): Brian moves to adopt the agenda as presented, Jen seconds. Jen, Ruth, Brian, Tobin, Kristen, Erin and Sirohi approve.
5. Public Comment?none
6. Regular Business--
 - A. Quick Updates: (15min)
 - i. Energy Benchmarking (Brian) Plowing through uploading data. Still no data from Conners-Emerson, so talked to Nancy Thurlow. Concerned that each year is so much different than the year before. Those things will need explanations. If a month is missed that will also mess with the numbers. We could go back and add the data from a couple of year's back.
 - ii. Recommendation to Kevin Sutherland to have a consultation meeting with Competitive Energy Services (CES) (Brian/Ruth)
There is an easy way to get ghg emissions to net zero by looking into using a broker. It may cost more money, but we don't know. Credits/certificates seem shifty but Brian is coming around to see the value in them. They encourage the development of more renewable energy sources. Solar or wind are good, but not hydro. Would like Town manager to approach CES or another broker to just do it if it costs less or the same. If it costs more, then we can have the conversation. Erin: Would love it if we could support this kind of proposal. Cornell wasn't ready to think about it , but Kevin may be more willing to put it as a higher priority. Would like to bring it to the March meeting of the TC. Tobin makes a motion that Erin takes the suggestion to council to have Kevin meet with CES(or another broker) to discuss green energy options –Brian refines it to say: We recommend that the Town Council directs the town manager to investigate electricity purchase options with an energy broker (like CES) that are from 100% zero emission sources(preferably from a Maine source) and bring back to Council a recommendation to consider. We recommend this as a short term solution until other local projects are online (like Higgins Pit). Jen seconds. All in favor-Jen, Ruth, Brian, Tobin, Kristen, Erin, Margaret and Sirohi approve.
 - iii. Sust. Position is in the budget! Many thanks to Steve Katona, Ken Colburn and Laura Berry who wrote letters to the town and the warrant committee. Tobin: it might be worth circulating those letters

to the committee because they really quantified the rationales for an SC. Good for talking points. Tobin will send out copies to all.

- B. [Community Resilience Partnership](#) (CRP) planning
- i. Community Resilience Partnership (CRP) Self-Evaluation meeting with Dept. Heads, etc. set for... (Ruth) Dept Heads have been busy with budget and doodle poll was re-sent. It would be helpful if one of us was present for the meeting. Kevin will let Ruth know. Erin would like to be in on that meeting as well.
 - ii. Update from Ruth's meeting with other towns-met with Johanna Blackman from ACTT and the other towns about CRP. We should be able to join and submit a grant app by March 22. Tight time frame. ACTT is happy to facilitate our application and help with the writing. We need to have a public forum and then pass a resolution as a town to be considered for the grant. ACTT will facilitate the public forum.
 - iii. Need to find a date for the Public Forum! Week of Mar. 7th-11th?
 1. ACTT will prep an outreach packet for us; link to contact, poster, etc. for us to distribute to raise awareness. Erin will announce at March 1 Council meeting so the public knows about it.
 2. Ruth will invite the Town Council and anyone else we could think of. Needs to be 7, 8, or 9. Get the resolution in the March 10 packet deadline for 3/15 TC meeting. Erin: Tuesdays are always a good night. Margaret: how long? 1.5 hours. Virtual is best for ACTT and others. Forum includes break out sessions for feedback. Johanna will come to our next meeting to let us know what we need to do to facilitate break out rooms etc. **Tuesday, March 8 at 6pm.** -This date does not work for Johanna. Is Wednesday, March 9th at 6pm OK?
- C. Discuss [AmeriCorps Application](#) (Jen) Erin: If the person starts in June they could do some of the set up before the SC could get started. Collecting the data and identifying what needs to be done. OR... we could have the person start in January 2023 once the SC is in place. Margaret suggests that we do both and get a person to be there right away and then apply again for January. Jen and Ruth will meet up and work on this application this week. Brian wonders about the \$ and if we need to make a motion to make sure we can make this application on time. Tobin recommends that we check with Kevin about when he wants this person to start: June or next January. Tobin moves that we complete the application before the deadline, share it among the group for edits and approval by Kevin Sutherland, to start in June. Margaret seconds. Discussion: Kristen wonders if we need to get it approved anywhere else? Erin we would need to alert the TC first but since we will check with Kevin first then he will ensure that the TC is OK with that. Erin will ask the TC if we can expend money that has already been budgeted for a stipend for a VISTA volunteer. Ruth will call Kevin tomorrow to talk about this. Application is due Feb 22, 2022. Margaret sent the SC job description which could be

helpful in filling out the application. Vote: All in favor, Jen, Ruth, Brian, Tobin, Kristen, Erin, Margaret, Norm. Sirohi had to leave early and did not vote on this.

- D. Continue reviewing [Part 2 of CAP](#) - Ruth shares out on conversation with Laura Berry. Laura is going to look at what we have already and organize it and make it easier for us to work on it. She will get back to us in a few weeks. Johanna is suggesting that we use ICLEI to collate all the municipal ghg information for the towns so that all the information is in one place. First grant March 22, but in 6 months we can apply again, either regionally or as a town. -No update
- E. Solar panels on transfer station with leftover money from a bond? (Erin)
The town will purchase the solar array that is on the highway department with the leftover money from a bond, so we get the credits for the power to keep or sell. There is not money left for solar panels on transfer station. Money for Higgins Pit has been factored into this year's budget. Brian: if we sell those recs it does nothing for our ghg audit. Erin: Just found info re:solar panels for solid waste dept. The Town will use last of the bond money \$110K for solar panels for the transfer station.
7. Review & assign "to do" list. Margaret asks for a contact sheet so we can get in touch with each other.
8. Adjournment: Jen moves that we adjourn, Kristen seconds. All in favor.

Old stuff To Do:

- Connect with Park & Rec and Cons. Comm. to find commonalities in our plan and the Open Space plan - Millard
- Highlight items from the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) that we need to address & bring to the next meeting.
- Better public outreach - website?

CAP Timeline: