

Madison Town Energy and Efficiency Committee

Madison Town Campus November 21, 2019

MINUTES

Members Present: Woodie Weiss, Chairman, Guy Mannino, Tracy Juengst, Gary Naegel, Dick Evarts, Francis Pullaro and Ron Hick. Also present were town residents C. Thomas Paul and John Dixon

1) Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Weiss.

2) Approval of September 2019 Minutes: Motion by Gary Naegel and seconded by Guy Mannino to approve the September 2019 meeting minutes. This passed unanimously.

3. Discussion of tentative plan for DHHS & Polson PV. At the Board of Selectmen meeting last month, the Selectmen expressed uncertainty as to whether the public has been informed about the proposal and have opportunity to weigh in on it. The RFP ended up being withdrawn and in the near future a modified RFP will be drawn up and put back to the public for their input into carports in general (design, specifications, etc.) with perhaps two public hearings and aim to start the project in June with completion in August time frame. Francis added including different project options at different price points and mentioned looking at the model documents Green Bank has available to incorporate details for the presentations. Woodie then mentioned that he and Scot Erskine walked the areas at Bauer Farm Park and in the back there was an area that had great exposure so that a 100 kilowatt system could be placed there. Francis added that something like this could generate public controversy with community opposition. Town resident Thomas Paul added that there was another field behind Bauer that is not part of Bauer near the highway that could be considered as a possible location as well.

Francis asked if the town benefits from owning the systems and panels after twenty years and also considering the cost of decommissioning. Tracy said that carports are replaced if they are damaged by weather at no cost to the town. Woodie added that PPA takes care of everything and the town only pays per kilowatt hour generated. He then said nonprofits like the town wouldn't get the 26% investment tax credit because they don't pay tax and on top of that, there's no advantage to bond for it and pay interest.

4. Update on Portfolio Manager progress – Tracy & Gary— Tracy said she is updating the solar data for the last year. Gary submitted copies of raw data from the Portfolio Manager's electric data from 2012 to 2018 and said he was filling in data for gas for two of the town properties for two months time. Tracy said the data has to be normalized against the different weather periods that occurred across that time

5. Update on DEEP EV infrastructure – Guy. Went to The Regional Conference on Sustainable Development: EV Deployment conference two weeks ago. The conference focus was on scaling EV deployment: overall transit planning, the role of utilities, municipal readiness, and electric school buses. Guy said he was disappointed to hear how far behind the state is with their state initiatives. He said there was a discussion about electric school buses, and another discussion about what project to have done first: the infrastructure first or the cars first. Woodie remarked that last weekend he was charging his Tesla in Greenwich on the Merritt Parkway and there were others waiting, while on the other side of the parking lot there were two DCT Combo chargers that were out of order. Guy commented that in Rhode Island there is a National Grid incentive that will pay for the entire infrastructure for the state and 50% of the equipment, plus there is an Electrify Rhode Island campaign that launched on November 1st that can be combined with the other incentive helping to largely get everything done for free.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Abigail White, Recording Secretary