

6/7/2021 Glover Energy Committee Meeting

Present: Ann Creaven, Sara Gluckman, Angela Daniels, Heather Clark, Mariel Hess

Proposed Solar Array

- No word yet from St. J Town Manager, Chad Whitehead, as to why they chose Option 2 (“Fixed Discount”) in their negotiations with Norwich Solar.
- As we understand it, Option 1 is riskier but the Town can potentially benefit more financially using it.
- We believe Glover Town Lawyer (Sara Davies-Coe) will be reviewing the proposal from a legal standpoint.

District School Solar Arrays

- Joe Houston, Facilities Manager for the Elementary and Middle Schools, presented at the recent EMS Board Meeting the idea of installing solar at all the schools. They were receptive but wanted more information on such things as expected benefits. He will reach out to Norwich Solar and SunCommon for their input and present at the next Bd Meeting. We are encouraged to join the zoom board meeting to show support and possibly help answer questions.
- We discuss writing a letter to explain why pursuing solar is a good thing to do. **Heather offers to draft this letter.**

Net Metering Notes

- Both Barton and Orleans offer net metering - so both schools could install solar
- Barton Electric - had hydro in Charlston but not sure whether it still does.
- Barton and Orleans have a collective bargaining unit that gets them better rates when they do it together.
- In general the municipalities electric departments have lower rates than other Vermont utilities.
- Utilities pay more for solar power than they sell it for.
- Net metering credits are decreasing which means you get less money for the energy you generate.

Decarbonizing Housing vs Promoting Electric Vehicles

- There is concern about how to decarbonize housing - an overall effort to decrease our carbon footprint and reach our energy goals.
- How to do existing housing? Solar will not reduce carbon footprint completely but will reduce use of fossil fuels - which is going in the right direction with regard to our energy goals
- Work is being done to get additional funding for housing but there is an equity issue - Feds are putting \$ into electric vehicles but not affordable housing.

Window Inserts

- Still some question about whether the program can/will happen this year - due to unknowns about wood availability and staffing of new site where frame pieces will be cut.
- If it's a go - then orders will need to be in by end of July and measuring would begin in August.
- Sara has HANDOUTS FOR WINDOW DRESSERS that she will have available again this year at Farmer's Market - and will collect names and orders from interested residents, assuming the program goes forward.

Welcome letter for new homeowners

- We think such a letter could be very helpful to new homeowners - to provide information about such things as Head Squad, Efficiency Vermont, Vermont Electric Co-op, and NETO.
- Our Town clerk has indicated willingness to let us know when new residents come to town so that we can send them the proposed letter.

Electric Bicycles

- Our two e-bikes will be available - free of charge - in August. Must sign up through Local Motion Website (Burlington)
- Per add on Front Porch Forum - Greensboro Garage has E-bikes that they are renting out.
- Per Sara, there is a new contact person at Local Motion.

Glover Select Board Meetings

- Occur the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of every month at 6:30pm.
- June's meetings will be on June 10th and June 24th

Next Energy Committee Meeting

- June 21st is our next meeting

Respectfully submitted by Mariel Hess