

**TOWN OF UNDERHILL**  
**Energy Committee Minutes**  
**6:30 P.M. Wednesday, June 13, 2018**

Meeting called to order 6:30 p.m.

Quorum established Underhill Energy Committee (UEC) members in attendance: Peter Bennett (PB), Jerry Adams (JA), Ruth Julianelle (RJ), Michael Oman (MO), Steve Webster (SW), and Dwight DeCoster (DD)

Amy Golodetz , Underhill Conservation Commission, guest for approximately 1 hour.

Public Comments – none

Meeting Agenda adjusted to hear first from Kate Desrochers, Packetized Energy

She gave presentation of Vermont Electric Coop (VEC) program under which VEC customers with electric hot water heaters would attach a small internet enabled device to smooth out electricity demand for heating water.

Discussed the benefits and rewards to those who sign up. At this time, benefits are mainly to VEC but ultimately may benefit users from lower electric rates. There is a \$25 credit on sign up and a \$25 credit when one year is completed.

There are 300 slots available total, 64 have signed up including 6 in Underhill. Agreed that we don't know how many qualify in Underhill. Cutoff for this program is August 31.

Kate asked whether UEC might help promote program. Committee agreed to look at endorsing through an FPF posting.

Committee is concerned that if there are any problems the device can be immediately and easily bypassed.

Reviewed/Approval of Minutes from May 9, 2018

So moved by MO; approved unanimously.

Current status of Gravel Pit solar

PB reported that next step is to pin down available area at gravel pit through joint visit of town highway foremen and SB member, planned for next week.

Town energy plan

UEC members will act as advisers on task force; first meeting scheduled for Wed June 20

### Discussion of where we are, where we're going in 2018

How can we be most effective: consensus was by doing what we're doing now but perhaps with:

- more education of residents through forums starting in fall  
DD has priority list: he will send out to UEC members
- find ways to boost residential solar
- UEC should revisit transportation issues
- MO pointed out that we need a way to make energy info more readily available to town; discussion of reviving the web site idea, general agreement
- interesting technology, e.g. Powerwall (PW)
  - JA reviewed plusses/minuses;
  - plus is that they store approximately 14 kwh or roughly one day of electric energy used by a residence;
  - problem with GMP program is they have option to take all stored energy if they have a need;
  - not clear whether PW best use is as backup in event of power loss or to enhance net metered solar production; JA or DD will contact GMP to see if they will give presentation on Powerwall
- DD suggested we explore energy ideas in depth, one at each meeting

### **Committee Operations**

Next regularly scheduled meeting – July 11, 2018 – will not be held due to no quorum expected

Motion to Adjourn Energy Committee Meeting by RJ at 8:05 approved

Submitted by Peter Bennett