

**TOWN OF UNDERHILL
ENERGY COMMITTEE MINUTES FINAL
Underhill Town Hall
6:30 P.M. Wednesday Sep. 11th, 2019**

In Attendance:

- Peter Bennett (PB), Nicole Bourassa (NB), Gerry Adams (GA), Steve Webster (SW), Dwight Decoster (DD), Ruth Julianelle (RJ)

Meeting Called to Order: 6:33 pm

Public Comment Period

- No public in attendance

Review/Approve Minutes from Aug. 14th, 2019

- PB moved to accept minutes, all approved

Visit by Lisa Morris from Vermont Electric Co-op: Energy Services Planner

UEC expressed interest in following topics:

- current VEC renewables portfolio
- solar/grid connections allowed
- SHEI bottleneck
- system storage
- support for residential storage
- any grid upgrade plans in progress, planned
- customer programs
- 3 phase power availability in Underhill, Jericho

Discussion:

- Net-metering
- renewable energy standard
- Regulatory issues
- Energy Mix handled by power-supply team
 - majority is hydro Quebec
 - more than half renewable
 - goal is to purchase as much renewable energy as possible while keeping rates stable
 - really an exercise in paper (RECs)
- Solar and Grid Connections
 - Review of the SHEI
 - anything over 150 KW in SHEI → VEC is intervening b/c of grid capacity
- VEC storage in Hinesburg; can that be replicated in SHEI area?
 - the storage is more about offsetting peak energy times
 - can shift block loads too → up to Canada?
 - Hinesburg battery is 5.3 MWH of storage
 - Not doing power-share with home energy storage (like GMP and Powerwall) → not cost-effective for the capital investment VEC would have to make (Tesla said would have to sell/install 500 Powerwalls)
- 2019 Integrated Resource Plan just posted on website, which includes vegetation maintenance plan
- Energy Transformation Program

- Tier 1 and 2 and 3 requirements...
- More about shifting transportation and heating away from fossil fuels
 - have a number of “energy credits” incentives for hot water, HPs, EVs, lawn mowers
 - VEC Clean Air
 - VEC Community Fund
- 578 VEC Underhill accounts in VEC→ almost all residential
- Offering time of use rates for people accessing rebates
- Energy goals in legislation are attainable:
 - 75% of energy is renewable by 2032
- 3 phase power from VEC not readily available in Underhill-Jericho sites for EV charging stations

Update on projects

- solar array
 - SW and PB went to SB meeting→ still contentious about 1 item on agreement: \$7500 deposit proposed by town to hold in escrow incase GLG abandons array
- Button Up plans
 - DD report on updates: sign up is 9/17
 - 500 free home energy visits--by Efficiency VT staff
 - Much simpler, cleaner process, also to include rebates for moderate income bracket
 - DD motion to sign us up, SW second, all approve

Committee operations

- GA announced this was his last meeting; Committee expressed their thanks to Gerry for his long service
- Agreed UEC will not be participating in Harvest Market
- Per effort by Michael Oman, UEC will have discussions with Jericho Energy Task Force regarding cooperative ventures
- Must re-visit the Town energy plan
- Next meeting→ October 9th, 2019

Meeting Adjourned 7:53 PM

- PB moved to adjourn, so moved, all approved

Submitted by Nicole Bourassa