Windham Planning Commission

Meeting Minutes

7/11/18

Present: Chris Cummings, Maureen Bell, Tom Johnson, Dawn Bower, Bob Kehoe, Heath Boyer, Bob Bingham, Louise Johnson, Mary Boyer, Vance Bell, the Jungermans, Jeff Wheeler, Kord Scott, Bill Dunkel, Kate Wright (arrived at 6:50)

6:58 Kate’s minutes started; Maureen took notes from the beginning of the meeting.

Maureen presented suggested revisions to the draft she has of the Energy Plan.

Grammatical suggestions were accepted.

Discussion about Windham residents carpooling to shopping and activity destinations.

Maureen questions why several propane trucks provide to many homes in the area. Jeff questions if Windham residents might be able form a coop to buy from one propane provider.

Heath Boyer questions net metering numbers.

Review of solar generation map showing best sites for solar development in Windham. Energy Commission created a list of what sites would be best suited for solar development. Energy Commission used state and town data to identify suggested sites for either preferred or non-preferred sites.

Goals and policies were developed by Energy Commission for reduction in energy use.

Third goal is on land use patterns.

Fourth goal is on renewable energy.

Action steps should be developed to achieve the goals of the Energy Commission.

Question of whether the town could coordinate on having energy saving projects done.

Bill questions whether there are things the town can do to educate townspeople on reducing energy use in town.

Bob Bingham questions how if our town doesn’t have greater electricity wiring capacity why would anyone ever choose to develop in town? He suggests the town focuses on rooftop solar installations.

Bob Bingham suggests having energy companies report to the town about how best to install solar panels.

Bill questions neighbors, rather than companies, installing solar panels and sharing power. Suggest that compliance from the town for … ?

This is an initial stab by the Energy and Planning Commissions to address energy use. It will have to be approved by the Select Board.

Bob Kehoe will try to contact Green Lantern to coordinate proceeding with energy development in town.

Bill will get info from this meeting to the Select Board.

Next meeting: