

**TOWN OF BECKET**  
**ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Date: March 20, 2018**

**Time: 3:30 PM**

**Location: Becket Town Hall, Becket Room**

**557 Main Street, Becket**

In Attendance: Al Blake, Cathy DeFoe, Katherine Hoak, Bob Markel, Bill Girard, Garth Klimchuck, Dan Parnell.

Absent: Robert Gross.

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:35 PM.
2. The minutes of the meeting on January 18, 2018 and February 20, 2018 were reviewed and approved.
3. Current business items:
  - a. We will contact Coop power again to pursue adding PV system to both the Town Hall building and Pavilion or to the field adjacent to the town hall. The septic field is in this area and may be an issue with a ground mount system. This project may not need to go out to bid because it is a 'Utility'.
  - b. Verify updated information on town website. Cathy made all changes and sent them to Nina to revise as time allows. Nina is currently working on this and has the Green Communities Report pdf from Ed Gibson.
  - c. We attempted to review the municipal electricity contracts - Bob cannot find our contracts but will meet with Ed to review. We do have the current power bills and the price for generation is \$0.0812/kWh. Constellation is the current supplier for all the town buildings. Beverly did later bring these contracts in for our review for our next meeting.
  - d. Additional opportunities for green community grants - We have \$25,000 left to spend on our current grant before July 1, 2018. We need to find a \$25,000 project so that this part of the grant can be completed and the next round of grant funding can be accessed. Bob did bring this up at the last Select board meeting. Chris Bouchard has agreed to work on this for the benefit of the Town garage.
  - e. Status of town hall heating/ac replacement. The town needs to find \$75,000 additional funds to proceed with the heating/ac replacement. The Select board made the decision to push this off until next year.
  - f. Status of municipal garage energy improvements - The town garage will be converting completely to propane. Chris Bouchard is working on this project and will be providing Bob with an estimate for this work.
  - g. Town aggregation program: Over 50% of the towns in Berkshire County are in aggregation programs at a savings of 10-15% on their power cost. This would require a town meeting vote and a selection process from multiple

vendors. The proposal needs to be approved by the state first before it can go before the ATM.

4. Any other business to come before the Committee.

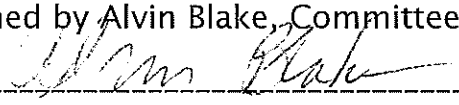
- a. Bob Gross will likely have conflicts for the foreseeable future attending the Energy Committee.
- b. Solect Community Solar phone call at 4 PM. Bob met with their representative and they have done a number of projects in the region. They believe we can install around 100kW on the field south of the Town Hall building. There is considerable amount of infrastructure required to do a ground mount system. A roof mounted system on the Town Hall could potentially cover all the usage for the Town Hall. The new SMART incentive system may offer us the chance to gain municipal incentives such as on bill crediting. The Town garage could also be a site for PV for the Town garage use.
- c. Coop Power phone call with Brian at 4 PM. PPA route will require a bid process. When going through the lease process, because of the different income stream, no bids are necessary. Community shared solar is done on a lease basis. The return or discount on a lease PV system is around a 10% discount off our power generation. We need to decide as a town and an organization which model we want to pursue. The ground mount PV system septic system installation is not recommended. We need to determine the footprint of the septic system. The 175 kW system is marginal on 0.5 acre.

**5. NOTE NEW MEETING DAY AND TIME Next Meeting date -April 20, 2018 at 9 AM**

6. The meeting was adjourned at 5 PM.

Cathy DeFoe, Secretary

Signed by Alvin Blake, Committee Chair

 Chair 4/20/18 Date