**Shelburne Energy Committee**

Thursday, April 20, 2022 7:00 pm

Shelburne Town Hall

**Present:** Tom Johnson, Emily DeVoto, George Boettner, Pat Stevenson, Andrew Baker (present for 15 minutes for part of the LED streetlight discussion)

**Staff:** Cynthia Boettner

**Meeting Minutes**: March 9 meeting minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

**MassSAVE Communities First:**

Tom distributed copies of the draft Communities First program (CFP) budget, which he has been working on with FRCOG. Cynthia called attention to the surplus from 2022, pointing out that we still have more than $1500 left over from last year. We will fill in missing information by the next meeting.

Cynthia distributed a draft schedule for the CFP for the rest of the year. She pointed out that the work to follow up with MassSAVE applicants/customers via SalesForce data has fallen behind because she has had to dedicate so much time to planning events. The Committee agreed to try to scale back planning activities in order to catch up with customer follow-up. Cynthia reported that Revise has already publicized the workshop on April 27, at their expense. The Committee proposed also publicizing information about upcoming committee events and activities in the upcoming tax bill distribution, which will be sometime around early May.

Tasha Espéndez from All-In energy will be in town on Tuesday, April 25. Some committee members will meet with her that day for a catch-up.

**CAPV – Revise Intro meeting April 27**

The Committee will have a table at this meeting and distribute information in particular on the community aggregation rate option for attendees, as an update. Several Committee members will be in attendance to answer questions.

The Committee voted to approve $300 to provide snacks and coffee from Shelburne Falls Coffee Roasters as it will extend over the dinner hour.

**Solar installation on Town’s new pole barn near town garage**

No further information was reported about this project, but the Committee confirmed that the array on the high school is in place.

**Offer from local resident to fund solar arrays**

Tom shared an offer from a local resident to endow new solar arrays on municipal buildings in Shelburne and elsewhere. The Committee will follow up with the resident to discuss further.

**A comprehensive study of LED streetlights**

Tom reported back on his and Kate’s visit to Pepperell to meet with town officials and view the streetlights currently installed, which – crucially – are dimmable, allowing even greater energy savings and providing appropriate illumination depending on the time of day, location, and season. (Pepperell worked out a way to pay for the installations by negotiating a special rate with the utility, and also privately hired a lighting consultant.) The Committee agreed that, without further study, it is premature to commit to Eversource’s current plan for replacing the town’s 99 sodium streetlights with LED lights, in particular in the absence of available shields to fit the fixtures. A residence on Water Street has been afflicted by bright light shining all the way through the house and disrupting residents’ sleep. Although Eversource sent a serviceperson to jury-rig a shield to address this problem, it was clear that this was a bandaid solution that was not scalable to the whole town.

The Committee agreed on the wording of a proposal to the Selectboard meeting for April 24, in brief, to ask the Town to pause the LED installation work to accommodate needed fact-finding regarding costs/financing and appropriate lighting equipment, and work out details regarding maintenance and other issues. The Committee scheduled an extra meeting for April 27 to follow up on the Selectboard meeting on the 24th.

**Annual Report**

The Committee reviewed and approved the draft Annual Report prior to submission to the Town.

Next Meeting: Special meeting on LED project: April 27, just before the CAPV program at the town meeting center.

Next meeting: May 18, 7-9 PM on zoom

Adjourned at 8:50 pm