

Town of Franconia
Energy Commission Regular Meeting
September 19, 2023 at 4:30pm at Town Hall

In attendance: Jim Fitzpatrick, Chris Dube, Eric Meth, Daniel Zajic, Chuck Lukasic

The meeting was called to order at 4:30pm

- previous meeting's minutes approved
- Jennifer Opalinski presenting about the ice rink proposal
 - Looking for committee members (Daniel interested)
 - Goal to meet monthly and update the town in March
 - Beth Miller, North Country Architects
 - Gary Warriner rink consultant
 - Knows about ice systems (Strawberry Bank, Keene)
 - He recommended "Preferred Mechanical" (John Moore)
 - Someone coming to assess the space, low cost, 20-yr warranty
 - Thompson Point, ME (similar project)
 - Applied for non-profit status
 - Public-private partnership
 - Ongoing cost estimates from comparable projects
 - TODO: FEC should contact some solar installers to ask about what can be incorporated
 - FEC focus should be on getting close to net-zero, making long-term energy costs as low as possible
- Town solar:
 - First bill, reflects net-metering, surplus went back to Eversource
 - Net metering 2.0, energy credit is accrued in \$, not kWh
 - All the math looks correct (per Chris)
 - App access to monitor performance, stats, etc
 - One of two inverters is not uploading data to the cloud
 - Fitz: suggests putting the realtime information on the town website
 - Monitoring situation with "Elective pay" to get the federal tax credit (up to 30%)
 - REC (renewable energy credits)
 - Eversource has an aggregator that will help us
 - Inverter cloud uploading issue needs to be fixed, but otherwise it's now handled electronically
- Lafayette school solar
 - Fitz will attend the next meeting, 10/14
 - Funding, still unknown
 - Would be around 200 panels, have Revision (or anyone) give a rough estimate
- Fitz: Funding for municipal buildings (60%?)
 - Could be used to add solar to library and/or welcome center
- CMAQ
 - EV projects are on hold for now

- NHSaves
 - Melissa (Elander) asking for LOS for how it's helped Franconia
 - Bob providing some data
 - Per Building Alternatives, Franconia got 66%, the highest overall
 - We need more specific cases
- Community Aggregated Power
 - Eric: asking if Scott Belcastro would join the commission
 - Fitz: we're not in a big rush, Bethlehem is pushing to do it next meeting
- Solarize
 - Launch party at Iron Furnace on Nov 3rd, 6-8pm
 - Installer will be Mains Electric
- Meeting adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Zajic

DRAFT