

Bradford Energy Committee Regular Meeting

Tues August 1, 630pm via ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4739957902>

Attendance: Nancy, Ed, Tom, Susanna Guests: Jeff Grout, IREC, Vinnie DiBernardo, prospective member

Bradford Energy Committee

Minutes 08/01/23

1 Public comment-none

2 Jeff Grout gave us input on Bradford Academy MERP grant application process. Bradford has a high energy burden among other towns in the region, which is one 'favorable' metric for the "BGS". (BGS, Vermont Building and General Services implements the grant in coordination with Regional Planning Commissions. (At TRORC the planner is Harry Falconer). Jeff asked BGS what the situation is if a building is not owned by the town but there is a 99-year lease. Apparently, this may lower the town's priority rating in the grant application, but it is 'being left there at present'. There are two parties on the lease, the Town and the Bradford Academy and Graded School District. The BAGSD no longer exists. OUUSD (Oxbow Unified Union School District) was also mentioned.

An attorney may have to be engaged to determine what happens at the termination of the lease. Ed sent an email to Peep asking whether the Town attorney could be involved, and she will investigate this. Jeff suggested that the focus now should be on getting an audit of the building, and after that to look at what happens with respect to the lease. It was pointed out that the lease, as is, will probably outlast the equipment. Jeff was asked about Brian Emerson's interest in an electric school bus initiative. Jeff said that the current grant offerings have been for bigger programs than Bradford could access, but that soon, before the end of the year, smaller scale grant programs for electric school busses will be released, and he will keep us updated as those opportunities develop.

3 EV Charger event Update Nancy Jones reports that August 19th likely will not work for the EV charger party after all. Jennifer Rivers informed her that the musician scheduled to perform must have his own insurance. Nancy will investigate whether Norwich EVC can cover this. She is still trying.

4 WindowDressers Update. Susanna and Tom continue to measure. We have several low-income customers and are about 70% of the way to being fully booked. There has been a good local response to advertising.

5 LED Update Tom presented what he learned from a pilot installation of LED lighting in the Bradford Academy. Of the 50 bulbs installed, there were three failed ballasts. There was some dissatisfaction with new bulbs among users, but they can be supplied with old bulbs as desired. The information he got worked out to different best solutions for the three different areas (auditorium, gym, office space) and the bottom line was that the building could be converted for an estimated \$2,821.12, with about a four-

year payback. A motion to present this plan to the selectboard passed unanimously. The plan is to get the proposal on the Selectboard agenda for August 10th.

6 Committee vs Commission question. Discussion centered around whether Commission status for the Energy group would be more in keeping with, and facilitate, the work performed by our group for the town. Terms, by-laws, and a budget may be appropriate. Nancy Jones suggested looking into the committee versus commission status of the Energy Committees in towns served by TRORC. This matter will be taken up again.

7 Minutes July 11th approved.

8 Other Tom will be looking into Button Up Vermont

9 Adjourn all approved 7:30pm