

# **Nelson Town Buildings Committee**

## **April 2, 2018**

### **Attendees**

- Dave U
- Lisa
- Russ
- Earl
- Sandy

### **Absent**

- Dave B

### **Guests**

- Greg Blake, Southpack Solar

### **Action Items**

#### **Sandy**

- Meet with Bert, Rob and Beth to float the idea of solar on Turtle Hill

#### **Dave**

- Send photos of the Wilton solar array to Sandy

### **Meeting called to order at 6:10 PM**

**Minutes of the meeting of January 29th are approved as sent via email, motion by Sandy, second by Russ, all in favor**

## **MINUTES**

### **Energy Conservation**

- The Town will receive 50% of the cost of the project back as a rebate from Eversource, about \$16,500.
- Bringing back the contractor to look at Granite Lake Fire Station and insulating the door under the Town Offices, and also to look at the Town Office in general. Awaiting estimates.

### **Solar - Next Phase**

- Edie has calculated energy consumption for the Town Buildings

- Looking at a goal of enough solar to cover the needs of the municipal buildings for power and heating
  - For both resiliency and sustainability
  - Looking at Grid-tied system for now, with long-term goal of adding battery backup for increased resiliency and disaster-preparedness.
  - Heating: Heat Pumps with Air Handler
    - Greg asks us to note that for old buildings, changing the heating system has the potential to change the building, due to changes in humidity
    - And Furnaces stay as backup
- Greg will convert all the numbers to kWh and figure out the total number of panels needed
  - Ground-mounted system
  - Need to meet with the abutters soon, to get their thoughts about pros and cons
    - Rob Germeroth and Beth Draper
    - Bert Wingerson
    - Need to research other abutters
  - Start preparing for a public information session
    - Looking to Greg to provide info
      - Number of panels
      - Is 3-phase necessary?
      - Ideally sketch of what the array would look like
        - Guessing at about 150 foot square
        - Share the Wilton installation photos - Jersey barrier mounted system
    - Budget
    - What does our insurance carrier require in terms of fencing?
- Financing
  - Greg will do research into power-purchase agreements and other options and include this in his report
- What about the solar cap that NH had?
  - Went away in September 2017
  - In return, the utilities are paying less for power produced
- What about tariffs on Chinese panels
  - Note that the two US companies went out of business
  - 5 years of Chinese panels have been imported recently
  - And Malaysian panels are exempt from the tariff
  - The aluminum in the mounting is probably more of an issue

## Updates re New Water Well for Town Buildings

- Still waiting for the Selectboard to certify that the water is safe to drink
- Latest tests were done a week ago
  - Passed all tests, though high in Manganese
- Still concerned about septic within 50 feet of the well, and sewer line 8–10 feet from the well
  - We have a good map now of all services
- Dave U has contacted the state of NH Dept. Of Environmental Safety, to find out if as a Town we have done enough
  - Spoke to Tom Willis
  - It looks like ours is not a “private well” because of the number of people who use it
    - RSA485:1a, XV
      - Regularly serves an average of 25 people at least 60 days a year
        - Makes it a “transient water system” rather than a “private well”
      - Requires additional forms
        - Well Completion Form
        - Drinking Water Analysis Report
          - Tom Willis said our numbers are fine
  - Then they schedule an inspection
    - And going forward, bacteria inspection quarterly and full inspection yearly
- Signs about not drinking the water will stay up until DES completes their work
- Selectboard will consider doing bacteria test monthly for the next quarter
- There is a worst case scenario which is that the sewer pipe will have to be replaced, but that is not currently necessary

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:35 PM, by Sandy, second by Dave U, all in favor**

## Next Meeting

**Monday April 30th 6 PM Town Offices with Greg Blake**