

## **Montague Energy Committee**

June 21, 2016 6:15-7:45 PM

Town Hall 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Meeting Room (moved by town to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, with signs directing people)

**Present:** Sally Pick, Tim Van Egmond, Jeff Singleton, Pam Hanold. **Guest:** David Detmold.

**Approve minutes 6/7/16** Tabled

**Designate facilitator and scribe:** Sally facilitated, Jeff and then Sally took minutes.

### **Town energy issues:**

#### **Update on Tree Advisory Committee:** by David Detmold

- This committee is being formed and will have its first meeting soon.
- Advocating for tree plantings, focusing on planting, developing a tree nursery, ongoing planting, maintenance plans, and funding.
- Energy committee could support their effort by:
  - advocating for energy savings with tree plantings, shade trees, support for grant opportunities
  - looking for info, studies on recommendations for how best to plant trees and also have solar.
- Tech School is working with the airport commission to develop a tree nursery there.
- Nancy Hazard, chair of Greenfield tree commission, wants to apply with Montague for a grant for a tree nursery to grow and sell trees at a discount to both communities.

**Update on Park & Rec energy efficiency measures:** No update.

#### **Sheffield Audit - update/next steps:**

- META energy audit just received from Jim Huber. MEC will review and discuss after time to review audit.

**Shea Theater—update/next steps:** No report.

**Library bldgs. mold/roof problems:** No report.

**Additional building issues:** No report.

**Informing Energy Committee re Town structural & infrastructure procurement work:**  
No report.

**Municipal aggregation:** No report.

**Franklin Co Green Tour in Montague:** No report.

**Green Hero for Montague:** No report.

**Update on letter to DPU regarding shortcomings in review process exposed by gas pipeline issue**

Committee discussed comment letter and how best to submit it to make it current, given that the NED pipeline application has been withdrawn from FERC and that the letter focused specifically on the review process for the NED pipeline.

During discussion, Jeff Singleton decided to resign from the energy committee in opposition to other committee members' proposed differing approaches to the letter. His recommended approach differed from that of several other committee members who had alternative ideas on how to make the comment letter applicable to DPU's overall pipeline review process.

**Town vehicles, potential for electric vehicles and charging stations**

Pam circulated a list of town vehicles and will follow up with the police department for more information on how they use these vehicles and what the requirements are for these vehicles, with an eye toward exploring a plug-in vehicle for the town.

Sally will contact Claire Chang and John Ward of Gill to get the information they have on a hybrid police vehicle available.

May invite a rep from the police dept. to come to a future MEC meeting to discuss their vehicles and possible opportunities for plug-ins.

**Other topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of the meeting**

David Detmold reported that the Airport Commission is interested in exploring the idea of a solar farm on their property.

**Plan agenda for next meeting**

**Votes may be taken**

**Action items:**

- Pam will contact the police dept. for more info on how they use their vehicles and what requirements they have for various uses.
- Sally will contact Claire Chang and John Ward of Gill to get the information they have on a hybrid police vehicle available.
- Sally will research info on shade tree planting issues related to residential solar.
- Sally will forward DOER META grant info to Walter, if she hasn't already done so.