

MINUTES

SUNDERLAND ENERGY COMMITTEE (SEC) MEETING (ZOOM) **April 13, 2022 – 7pm**

Present: Andrew McKeever, Dixie Zens, Jeff Dexter

Absent: John Herrington, Becca Herrington, Noah Forrest

Guest: Alex Bresnick (new Select Board member)

- 1.) Meeting was called to order at 7pm.
- 2.) Jeff Dexter volunteered to be Sec'ry.
- 3.) Minutes from previous meeting were accepted.
- 4.) Jeff gave an update on State Legislative work on climate change issues. 1.) The Clean Heat Standard, H.715, passed the House and is now in the Senate Natural Resources & Energy Committee; 2.) The Transportation Bill, H.736, is also in the Senate. It would provide \$22 Million to cut the cost of EVs and \$19 Million for EV charging stations; The Municipal Energy Resilience Bill, H.518, passed the House. It would provide \$48 Million in efficiency and clean heating options for municipal buildings across the state; and 4.) The Clean Heat Standard, H.715, passed the House (by a 96-44 vote!) and is on to the Senate. It incentivizes a clean energy transition for fossil fuel companies and helps VT'ers, especially lower income residents, heat their homes and buildings with access to more cost-effective, efficient and local heating solutions.
- 5.) Jeff noted the Town Energy Audit by Heat Squad was set for 9am, April 26th. The resulting report should be available within 2 weeks of the inspection. The free Eff VT Energy Assessment for our Town Hall may be conducted in mid-May. More to follow.
- 6.) Green Up Day – Committee Members designated which roads they would be volunteering to clean up (i.e. Andrew Route 7A from Bentley Hill to Town Line; Dixie, Borough Road, northern part of Sunderland Hill Road, North Road as needed). Guest Alex will clean up Kansas Road up to North Road. Jeff noted approx. 15 other volunteers had signed up for other roads in town.
- 7.) Dixie gave info about and noted he'll be attending the Hazardous Waste Day in Bennington on May 7th.
- 8.) Andrew McKeever will look into Hill Farm Inn wanting to install an EV charging station and if there's any info/assistance we could help provide them with. He will also see if the BCRC/GNAT building parking lot are might be a candidate for our town's only EV charging station.
- 9.) Andrew noted that GNAT sponsored a discussion on the Clean Heat Standard

legislation before our State Legislature. It is on their website. A state legislator and owner of Cota took part in voicing their opinions about the bill.

- 10.) Jeff is working on drafting a mass mailing postcard to town residents re Energy Committee resources & our availability to provide info to town residents.
- 11.) Our next meeting is set (via zoom) for Weds. May 18th at 7pm.
- 12.) Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.