

Starksboro Energy Committee

Monday December 1, 2025

12:00 noon – 1:00 pm

Virtual Teams Meeting

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[+1 802-377-3679](#) United States, Middlebury (Toll)

Conference ID: 222 356 293#

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1. Welcome
  - a. Adam Aguirre, Jeff Dunham, Rich Warren, Richard Faesy
  - b. Jolyon Larson, ACRPC
2. Public Comments
3. Approve Minutes from 11/3/25 meeting
  - a. Jeff moved, Adam seconded
  - b. Approved
4. Distribution of Efficiency Vermont's Button Up Vermont Campaign Materials
  - a. They have arrived at the Town Office
  - b. Jeff told Amy that they are for distribution
  - c. Richard let Pete know they are there for distribution at the Food Shelf and Food Pantry
  - d. Adam will stop by to bring to J Store and Schoolhouse
  - e. Town Recycling is an option; Jeff will call Louis Dupont about dropping materials
  - f. Richard to get materials for Food Shelf at Town Clerk and coordinate with Pete
5. MERP Grant updates
  - a. Food Shelf
    - i. Reviewed air sealing/insulation bid and make recommendation for Select Board
      1. There was just one bid from Building Energy
        - a. Budget came in \$800 more than the earlier estimate, but still appears to be within budget (see below)
      2. Need to meet 10% air leakage target in order to receive Efficiency Vermont's \$5000 rebate
        - a. Door threshold and weatherstripping can help with this
        - b. Heat pump installation may have left some holes that should be examined to see if they can be filled
        - c. Building Energy should be informed that meeting this 10% reduction is a priority
      3. Caution the Select Board that there is a chance that we may not meet this 10% reduction, but it's likely we will. There is always a risk we won't.
      4. Make clear to Building Energy that we meet the air flow target.

5. Motion: The SEC recommends accepting Building Energy's bid from 11/12/25 with acknowledgement that we are hoping to achieve Efficiency Vermont's 10% air leakage target that would allow us to receive their \$5,000 rebate.
    - a. Adam moved, Jeff seconded
    - b. Unanimously approved
  6. Make sure to prioritize the air leakage target in any communications with Building Energy
  7. Richard to project manage with Amanda's help.
  8. Richard communicate with SB and Amanda about SB meeting tomorrow night.
- ii. Door threshold contractor
    1. Howard Heustis
    2. Unclear whether he will invoice for his work
    3. Will be good to confirm completion of weatherstripping on west door
      - a. Did he ever replace it?
  - iii. ADA barrier placement
    1. Pete and Josh located a concrete block
    2. Hopefully town can work with Josh to execute placement
    3. Richard discuss with SB tomorrow night to try and wrap this up
  - iv. Signage
    1. Richard ask Amanda to work with Josh to approve putting the existing ADA parking sign a post attached to the concrete block
    2. Rich is willing attach sign to barrier if the town can provide a post once the barrier is in place
    3. Richard to discuss at SB meeting
  - v. Heat Pump
    1. Outdoor heat pump compressor roof
      - a. Needs to be built if there is budget left over
      - b. Could Howard build and roof it?
      - c. Could town allocate funding to do this if there is not budget left over?
    2. Remote thermostats
      - a. Wait to see where we are with budget, then prioritize these and a switch to turn off the water heater when not needed
  - vi. Electrical mast
    1. Was disconnected when roof was redone
    2. Has it been reattached? It needs to be
    3. Follow up to see if fixed
    4. Jolyon is concerned about storm resilience
  - vii. Review budget
    1. \$8527 is left before Howard invoiced the town. If we receive the \$5,000 Efficiency Vermont rebate and contract with Building Energy, there will be about \$1937 remaining. Let's complete this work then revisit where to spend any remaining funds. (Priority is heat pump remote thermostat(s) and how water tank on/off switch).

	A	B	C
1	<b>Awarded Amount</b>	<b>\$ 26,898.00</b>	<b>Paid by Town?</b>
2	Freezer	\$ (4,729.00)	Y
3	Fridge	\$ (3,609.00)	Y
4	Fridge & Freezer Rebate	\$ 800.00	N/A
5	Heat Pumps	\$ (9,350.00)	Y
6	McCormick Electric	\$ (1,482.88)	Y
7	ADA Threshold		
8			
9			
0			
1			
2			
3	Remaining	<b>\$ 8,527.12</b>	
4			
5			
6			
7			
8	<b>Building Energy</b>		
9	Fan	\$ 1,775	
0	Attic	\$ 9,815	
1	Subtotal	\$ 11,590	
2	EVT Rebate	\$ (5,000)	
3	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 6,590</b>	
4			
5	Remaining	\$ 1,937	

2.
  - viii. Next steps
    1. Richard to talk with SB about above issues.
  - b. Jerusalem Schoolhouse
    - i. No one has been invited to any meetings, if there have been any
    - ii. Megan and Jeff were on the Committee, but have not been recently engaged
    - iii. Check with Luke McCarthy and Susan Kaiber
    - iv. Tom Estey is seeking a variance on a sprinkler system for fire station
      1. This is more of a garage and not the main station, so would be a big cost
      2. There may be some code issues, but if there is no bathroom in the building, it should not trigger code
    - v. Jolyon update on MERP timeline
      1. If we have a good plan in place, Buildings and General Services (BGS) could pre-fund the project before December 2026 even if work is done after
      2. Need clear progress towards the project completion if this was our approach
      3. BGS doesn't want any money back and wants it spent on projects
    - vi. Scope of work
      1. Jolyon would like an update with J Schoolhouse decision makers
      2. Any scope change necessary?
      3. Scope change agreement is a possibility
        - a. Ferrisburgh got one
      4. Follow up meeting would be great
        - a. Jolyon should be looped in as our MERP representative with oversight for BGS

- b. J Schoolhouse Committee
  - c. Energy Committee member
  - d. BGS will likely want an update at some point in the future
    - i. If there will be a scope change, we will want to inform BGS
  - e. EVT may also be able to help with technical assistance, so consider including them as well
  - f. Regulated materials questions and strategies should be addressed
  - g. As Committee member of both Committees, Jeff will request to set up meeting with Luke and Susan, and include:
    - i. Jolyon
    - ii. Luke
    - iii. Jeff
    - iv. Amanda
  - h. Jolyon can set up a virtual meeting
- c.  [Quotes for MERP](#)
6. ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager (ESPM) Bill Data Entry Status
- a. Richard's nephew Cohen Bove is working on collecting building energy data for all town buildings and updating ESPM since 2020
7. Town Energy Plan
- a. Timing?
    - i. Response from Denny Casey 11/11/25: "You folks are welcome to look at the energy section of the Town Plan and suggest revisions at any time. "
  - b. Review of maps from the ACRPC
    - i. Are there any other available layers?
      - 1. Wind potential in more granular version
      - 2. Town of Starksboro Zoning as an overlay
      - 3. Powerlines including VT Electric Coop which has been missing for five years.
      - 4. Acts 250 and 181
    - ii. Is Vermont Electric Cooperation on the generation map? It doesn't look like it
  - c. Jolyon provided <https://geodata.vermont.gov/search?q=Act%20174>
  - d. Jolyon will follow up about VEC missing from the maps
  - e. Jolyon agreed to join to review maps with us on January 5.
8. Heat Pump Operation Guidance Plans
- a. Discuss at next meeting
9. Other business
10. Next meeting – 1/5/26
- a. Focus on maps from ACRPC