

Starksboro Energy Committee

Monday July 7, 2025

12:00 noon – 1:00 pm


Virtual Teams Meeting

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Conference ID: 222 356 293#

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1. Attendees
 - a. Adam, Jeff, Richard
 - b. Jeff will be out on July 17-August 6
 2. Public Comments
 - a. None
 3. Approve Minutes from 6/2/25 meeting
 - a. Motion to approve by Jeff
 - b. Richard seconded
 - c. Approved
 4. Town Plan and the Energy Plan status
 - a. Denny Casey sent an email to Richard stating that Danny Kuzio would be contacting him regarding the Town Plan at some point
 - b. Climate Action Plan was passed at the state level recently
 - i. 345 pages
 - ii. Adam will be reviewing and will let us know if there are any Starksboro related issues
 - c. Lots of discussion about solar and Ag soils
 - d. We anticipate more pressure for on-shore/land-based wind and solar on ag soils
 - e. Starksboro should have a clear map of our plans
 - f. We had missed a grant from ACRPC that could have helped us with some planning on this
 5. EV charger rate review
 - a. The Committee thanked Jeff for his thorough research on neighboring EV charger rates
 - b. From Starksboro SB meeting on 7/1
 - i. **Motion:** Carin McCarthy motioned to increase the EV charging rate to \$1.75 per hour to account for the increased cost of electricity and to make our rates comparable to area providers. David Schmidt second.
 - ii. Eric Cota suggested \$2 to \$2.50/hour to also cover maintenance costs.
 - iii. Motion carried at \$1.75 per hour.
 - iv. **Action:** Amanda Vincent to change the charging rate to \$1.75/hour.

- c. In Sept. 2027 we will need to increase the rate to cover the maintenance rate from the grant that will run out that currently covers maintenance.
- 6. MERP Grant status and next steps
 - a.  [Quotes for MERP](#)
 - b. Regulated Building Materials Assessment needs for both buildings; reply to ACRPC
 - c. Jerusalem Schoolhouse
 - i. Jerusalem Committee
 - 1. June 30 Luke put out notice to JSchoolhouse Committee
 - 2. RFP for construction management services is live and posted
 - ii. Silver Maple Construction
 - 1. We were unclear of their role going forward
 - iii. We need a strategy for depleting the MERP funds before they expire
 - iv. Megan is more involved in the project
 - v. RF to follow up with Megan to see where MERP is scheduled in
 - 1. Suggest meeting
 - vi. Did form get submitted by Jolyon on 7/1?
 - vii. RF to reach out to Jolyon and Luke about regulated building materials and next steps, come together and come up with a plan
 - d. Food Shelf
 - i. ADA Access
 - 1. Remove fence and disposal
 - a. Rich will cut down but needs some guidance and decisions from the Town
 - b. We need town permission to cut it down
 - c. RF ask Amanda and Koran for permission or road crew to take down and if they can do the ADA parking striping
 - 2. Bollards
 - a. We suggest placing a large rock on the ground there instead of a concrete bollard
 - b. RF ask Denny Casey about placing a large rock
 - c. RF make sure that rock placement doesn't interfere with GMP's meter reading ability (per Pete Antos-Ketcham's suggestion)
 - 3. Signage
 - a. RF ask Koran about installing an ADA parking sign
 - 4. Door threshold:
 - a. Change to an ADA threshold with a bottom sweep on the door
 - b. Keep west door but add weatherstripping
 - c. RF work Amanda to move forward with Howard Heustis
 - ii. Town's bid process
 - 1. <\$2500 can purchase without prior approval
 - 2. 2500-7500 – Prior approval from SB
 - 3. \$7500-25,000 need to go out to bid
 - 4. >25,000 – large purchase process, sealed bid process
 - iii. Refrigerator and Freezer purchase plans
 - 1. Purchase was approved by the Select Board 7/1/25
 - 2. Under way with Lisa Daudon for delivery in mid July

3. \$8400 for both units, then will be eligible for \$1000 rebate from Efficiency Vermont. RF to work with Amanda to pursue the rebates.
- iv. Electrical work
 1. Is the town paying for it?
 2. RF talk with Don McCormick and Amanda about next steps
 - a. Refrigerators
 - b. Heat Pumps
- v. Review budget
 1. We are close to \$27,000 total, not including the electrical work
- vi. Bid process plans
- vii. RF ask Jolyon at ACRPS help put out the air sealing and insulation bids
- viii. Places to post could include:
 1. Town web site
 2. Addy Indy
 3. Mention that it must be EEN contractor
7. Other business
 - a. Proper operation of heat pumps to optimize performance and efficiency
 - i. It would be good to educate consumers about how best to operate
 - ii. Town Energy Corner information piece on Town Website
 - iii. Adam will work on pulling together some information
 - iv. The town office is an example of where this might be applied
8. Next meeting – 8/4/25