

**Barre City Energy Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 23, 2017**

Committee Members Present: Elaine Wang, Conor Teal
Committee Members Absent: Phil Cecchini
City Staff: Janet Shatney
Citizens Present: Richard Hiscock
Visitors: Eric Vorwald, Senior Planner with the CVRPC

- 1) Meeting called to order at 5:25 pm

Minutes taker – *Janet volunteered*

- 2) Changes to the Agenda – *Elaine rearranged the agenda to accommodate those present.*
- 3) Energy Presentation by Eric Vorwald, Senior Planner with the CVRPC (Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission)

Mr. Vorwald gave an energy planning presentation to the committee, primarily to show and discuss the energy element need for the regional plan, which will, in turn require all the municipalities to have either an updated energy element, or add an energy element to their municipal plans.

The presentation showed the goals and initiatives as set out by the Legislature, known as Act. 174; that municipalities are going to have to abide by “90 X ‘50” the catch phrase that means the State’s expectation that 90% of Vermont’s total energy needs to be from renewable sources by the year 2050.

He discussed the legwork that the CVRPC has done, and will benefit the municipalities so they don’t have to replicate that work. That there are 3 requirements to the Energy Plan, and they are Analysis & Targets; Pathways & Implementation Actions; and Mapping. The CVRPC has completed the first and last of the 3.

The final discussion came about authoring an Energy Plan, something this committee tried to have completed in 2015. The timeline for the region and the desires of the committee are such that they line up very well with the updates required to the Municipal Plan.

- 4) Monthly tracking of fuel use/costs – Jeff Bergeron:

Jeff was not present, so this topic is tabled until the November meeting.

- 5) Update on City Hall project, timeline of City Attorney review? – Steven Mackenzie:

Steve was not present, so this topic is tabled until the November meeting.

- 6) Community Solar – Elaine and Conor:

Conor showed the S. Burlington and other municipal reports, and discussion was about finding stakeholders, and what we could do to create a community solar project.

Elaine asked who might want to take the lead on this, and if not, then it was agreed to get through the winter workshop series, and using those times to get more word out, then perhaps create a subcommittee out of those interested to move on this. Outreach will be the key, so looking to pick this back up around February 2018.

7) ButtonUp update – Elaine and Conor:

4 workshop ideas have been agreed upon – Heat Pumps, Slash Your Energy Bills, Zero Energy Homes, and Renewable Energy. Elaine and Conor have figured out how to utilize these workshops to meet the ButtonUp goals. For example, during the dinner time portion of the workshop, do more 1:1 demos with the volunteers for outreach. Lastly, Conor showed a copy of a very basic, but good survey that can be used at the workshops, and can be created and sent out to get a broader reach.

Elaine noted a survey mailing list, the day and time, is it better to hold on a Wednesday evening or a Saturday morning, and she will reach out the EVT with the best available times so that a speaker can be confirmed for the next meeting.

8) Approve meeting Minutes from September 25, 2017:

Tabled until November meeting.

9) Adjourn:

Meeting was adjourned at 7:04 pm.