

Hillsboro Energy Commission Approved Minutes
February 10th, 2022; **Bolded items are things to-do**

Meeting opened at 6:02 PM. Attendance: Brett Cherrington, Chairman; Adam Charrette, Vice-Chairman; Sue Durling; Jon Daley

Secretary's report:

Minutes of 1/27/2022: Motion to accept as amended by Sue, seconded by Adam. Passed unanimously.

Energy/Building Audits

Funds for the building fund is not tied to the stranded resource charge this year, but to the RGGI (Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative) fund. The next step is a Level 2 audit, which is done by Eversource, and the audits cost around \$2,500 per building and Eversource will cover that charge. Shakes to Shingles has sent over their information to Eversource, and they will start that process moving now. The level 2 audits will include payback estimates. The town had level 2 audits done in 2010, but we don't remember why it happened; speculations about a federal program that might have been in place at the time.

The library building audit needs another inspection due to the complicated architecture to figure out appropriate areas to seal and define boundaries. Rich will work on that soon.

The police station needs significant work, but maybe a specialized ceiling company might be a cheaper method of doing it. Shakes to Shingles mentioned there was a manufacturing problem in the felt and shingles that occurred in some major shingles manufacturers around the time the police station was constructed. An Aero-Barrier might be a good idea as well, as far as air-sealing more easily than crawling around.

We had a discussion about replacing boilers and other older appliances, which isn't included in any of the estimates. The "industry standard" was quoted as it is worth replacing appliances after 15 years, because the technology changes so fast.

We had a lengthy discussion regarding 61 W Main St/4 Church St due to Rich's opinion that the foundation of the middle portion of the building is in such poor condition that the cost might be prohibitively expensive, and Shakes to Shingles will not work due energy improvements on it due to the moisture issues. We forwarded the concerns to the Town Administrator for further review.

Legislative Update

Brett read selected portions of an article he found regarding current problems with the public utility commission. There is widespread agreement from various groups which don't normally agree with each other, but are against the current PUC and their decisions reducing funding for energy efficiency programs.

He also had another article about potentially decreasing the gas tax in an election year, though the gas tax is very small percentage compared to the price of gas, which it turns out has actually decreased compared to inflation over the last 30 years.

Charging Station

Brett talked with Tim White to update him about our status and our proposed lot near the bridge, and our line item in their spreadsheet has been updated. There is a possibility, albeit small, that an installer might see us on that list and contact us to see if they can be our installer. We talked about maybe contacting people on that list to see if there are resources that would work for us. **Jon will write an email.**

LED Street Lighting

Brett talked with Laura and she is working on finalizing the contract and will send it back to us when she is done.

Solar Farm

Project isn't moving, they need some parts and there are supply chain issues.

Energy Award

The Conservation Commission has a conservation award, and Brett was thinking it might be fun to have an energy award at town meeting. It is always hard to pick someone. Residential or commercial. Anyone who does something interesting in town would be eligible.

Oil tank at the town office

Sue followed up from last meeting and the tank has been emptied and filled with sand.

Next meeting at February 24th at 6PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM, motion to adjourn by Adam, seconded by Sue, passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jon Daley