

Monkton Energy Committee Minutes
Monkton Town Hall
September 19, 2018
Final Minutes

Members Present: Lee Kauppila, Nate and Jane Palmer and Pete Dufault

Others Present: None

Call to Order: 7:02 by Nate

Announcements: None.

Minutes review: August minutes approved with comments

Topics for the meeting: Woodbank and Enhanced Energy Plan

Enhanced Energy Plan

Nate heard from Ivor and the concern for industrial wind power in town. The top 15% of hills can't be used for wind power and that is the elevation where most of the wind energy is generated. Additionally, in terms of commercial size solar facilities, 3-phase power is needed. In Monkton we have limited capacity for 3-phase power so large commercial size solar projects may not be feasible.

The town spent about \$16,000 in diesel for town trucks last year. Switching the trucks to renewable NG was discussed, and this could be addressed in the town Energy Plan. Comments on this plan need to get to Ivor by September 21. Farms are a potential energy source for the town trucks as they could be a source for renewable NG and then conversion kits could be installed on the town trucks so they could burn NG.

Woodbank

According to Lee, last year we gave out all the wood that the wood bank had. This year our stock is a little bit less than what we had at this time last year. John McNerny and Lee can move wood during the day. Starksboro was able to purchase about 5 cords of wood. Monkton was able to deliver to Starksboro in the past. If Starksboro had a wood bank as well, it would minimize delivery distances between the two locations.

Other

Willowell has a new member, Zack, and has replaced the Americore volunteers that recently departed. A UVM class is scheduled to go to Hogback mountain to split wood this fall. They can also learn about the forest that has a mix of 16 different owners.

Next Meeting October 17, 2018 at 7:00 PM

Adjournment

Pete made a motion to close the meeting and it was seconded by Nate at 7:27 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Pete Dufault