Town of West Newbury Energy and Sustainability Committee

Wednesday, September 27 2023, 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Second floor meeting room, 1910 Building, 381 Main Street.

Present: Elisa Grammer, Stephen Doran, Rick Parker, Chip Wallace, Liz Callahan

Solar Feasibility Study

The most feasible projects to start appear to be:

- Location 1) Roof top of salt shed 33kW (modelled)
- Location 2) DPW Ground Mount 24kW (modelled)
- Looking likely to be <=60kW system. PPA vs direct ownership.
 - o Action: Research municipal financing for Solar
 - Action: Research baseline cost for CAPEX (direct ownership)

Municipal Aggregation

- DPU proposing changes that undermine the benefits of the Mun Agg
 - o Permission process currently on hold. Plan has not yet been filed to DPU.
 - Should the town provide a recommendation to the Dept. of Public Utilities based on Colonial model?
 - Elisa recommends → To be sent by Angus if he agrees, or else the committee.
 - Action: Angus or Committee to email to state reps (Tar and Ramos) asking them to submit comments to DPU. Along the lines of the template which will be provided.

Committee Questionnaire

 Reviewed and added responses. Recommended to include green vehicle. Will discuss further at next meeting.

AOB

- Meeting schedule agenda. Currently 2nd Wednesday for Resiliency Committee.
 - Proposal: 4th Wednesday of the Month.
- Virtual meetings: Proposed Zoom or Teams
 - Action: Chip to look into using existing town Cloud services (i.e. Sharepoint (Teams), Zoom, etc)
- Action: Chip to resend Report to whole committee.
- Next Meeting October 25th 2023 @ 1730.