

Meeting Minutes

Saco Energy & Sustainability Committee

May 5, 2020

Present: Jodi MacPhail, Andrew Dickinson, Pat Fox, Howard Carter, Rick Milliard, Don Roth, Andrew Goldberg, Ted Gagnon, Mike Garrity, Emily Cole-Prescott, Mike Cook, John Duross, Jackie McDonough, Ryan Sommer, Miles Walker of Woodard & Curran

Solar Net Metering Options

- Presentation given by Miles Walker of Woodard & Curran
- Miles Walker has been assisting colleges and universities for many years with the renewable energy procurement process (ex. Williams College, UMass, UMaine)
- Procurement of energy is done “virtually” by buying power from a solar site in another area of CMP territory, allows for solar projects to be developed where it is most cost effective
- Electricity bill amounts due will not change, the net energy billing credits will be listed at the bottom of the bill which create a savings when netted with the amounts due, similar to buying a gift card at a discount (example: paying 9 cents per kWh and getting 12.76 cents per kWh of credit back)
- Net energy billing tariff rate project contracts tend to be long term because they are designed to be aligned with the solar project financing, need contracted revenue, on average a 20-year commitment
- Miles Walker recommends buying only 75% of the city’s electrical load because of potential reductions in use, net energy billing credits are bankable, but they do expire 24 months after date of issuance

ENGIE Utility Billing Software RFP and School Department Participation

- Update given by Emily Cole-Prescott
- Glenys Salas, Emily Cole-Prescott and Jackie McDonough reviewed ENGIE’s utility billing process with Jason DiDonato and Mike Garrity of the school department via Microsoft Teams
- Emily-Cole Prescott prepared the Utility Billing/Data Management RFP, it was published May 1st with a response date of May 22nd
- Mike Garrity said the school department has an interest in automated utility billing, mainly for the usage and cost tracking as well as reports

Energy Zoning Ordinance Updates

- Update given by Emily Cole-Prescott
- Subdivision and site ordinance reviews are almost complete

Facility Updates

- Update given by Don Roth and Mike Garrity
- There are new cleaning and sanitizing procedures due to COVID-19
- One of the bays at the transfer station building is going to be used by the facilities department to store paper and cleaning supplies
- Using electrostatic sprayers to sanitize the police and fire department vehicles

- Utilizing the other two fire stations for fire department personnel to follow social distancing procedures
- Will be installing social distancing stickers and signs at City Hall
- The train station is still closed but the shuttle bus station is open
- Currently working on a keycard scan upgrade, starting with City Hall

School LED Lighting Project

- Update given by Mike Garrity
- School LED lighting project on hold due to budget unless energy committee wants to commit funds
- Andrew Goldberg said Efficiency Maine is enhancing the rebate on LED exterior lighting
- Mike Garrity said C K Burns School and Fairfield School parking lot lights have not been converted to LED

Bond Projects Update

- Update given by Pat Fox
- Due to COVID-19, Council is looking to reduce impact to the General Fund, specifically items in the capital plan (fully fund, partially fund or completely defer)
- Energy committee agreed to cut their yearly funding from the General Fund in half for fiscal year 2021

Committee Media Coverage

- Update given by Andrew Dickinson
- Andrew Dickinson created a video on the Water Resource Recovery Department's workforce development initiatives for an EPA case study, this can be viewed at [youtube.com/cityofsacotv](https://www.youtube.com/c/cityofsacotv)

Next meeting June 2, 2020