

Meeting Minutes

Saco Energy & Sustainability Committee

May 7, 2019

Present: Jackie McDonough, Tom Morgan, Howard Carter, Andrew Goldberg, Ryan Sommer, John Duross, Nathan Johnston, Don Roth, Emily Cole-Prescott

Zoning Ordinance Revisions

- Tom Morgan of TZM Planning located in Portsmouth, NH met with the energy committee to go over zoning ordinance revisions for the city of Saco, he would like to bring the ordinance up to date
- Emily Cole-Prescott has been working on the zoning ordinance revision with Tom Morgan since October/November of 2018
- Topics that have been brought up to the city planning department multiple times by property developers is the installation of electric vehicle chargers and solar arrays
- Howard Carter would like to see LED requirements for sub divisions added to the city ordinance
- Tom Morgan said large scale solar farms are increasing across the united states, currently the city of Saco zoning ordinance does not permit solar farms on a large scale
- Andrew Goldberg thinks the capped landfill on the Foss Road would be a great location for a large solar array
- It takes five acres of solar panels to generate one megawatt
- Should include a solar array buffer in the zoning ordinance
- Looking into adding solar panels on the new public works building
- Emily Cole-Prescott said a statement regarding EV charging stations and parking should be added to the zoning ordinance, would need to be more lenient on parking
- Tom Morgan said based on his experience in New Hampshire the city of Saco should include detailed EV charging language in the ordinance

Maine Manufacturing Partners Facility Tour

- Craig Cunningham of Maine Manufacturing located in Biddeford, ME gave the energy committee a tour of his facility

Grant Opportunity: Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

- Efficiency Maine Trust has released an RFP for level 2 public EV charging stations
- There are two eligible location categories: category one only applies to northern Maine and category two is open to all locations in Maine
- The city of Saco would fall under category two with a maximum incentive of 50% of eligible costs or \$5,000 per charging dispenser, whichever is less
- After reviewing the minutes from the meeting with Matt Burke of EVgo it is clear that the city will benefit more from EVgo or a similar company, installing and maintaining the EV charging stations rather than going through the grant application process with Efficiency Maine only to be reimbursed for 50% or \$5,000 of eligible costs

Next meeting June 4, 2019