

**Town Of Truro
Energy Committee Minutes**

December 4, 2023

Present: Chair Brian Boyle, Vice Chair Bob Higgins-Steele, Member Mark Farber, Member David Spencer, Harry Irwin, Alternate. Member Lindsey Wilson joined late.

The minutes from our previous meeting were tabled for discussion and approval during the next meeting.

DPW Director Jarrod Cabral update:

- Brewster has no Energy manager. Net Metering Credit contract with Truro is on hold until the position is filled. Jarrod reached out to CLC to accelerate Brewster Truro NMCs.
- Mark Farber suggested back-channel communication with Brewster to resolve the NMC issues. All that is needed from Brewster is copies of the last month's electric bill for the 4 largest Electric accounts
- Brewster will be sharing an energy manager with 3 or 4 other towns
- Support letter for MVP grant has been written and signed in advance of Grant application

Schedule Z Updates: Progress in updating accounts for receiving energy credits.

DPW CIP update:

Jarrod gave the committee a complete report on the Town-wide CIP. The discussion included:

- Detailed discussion on various CIP requests for FY25, including storage sheds, hardware replacements, vehicle updates, and infrastructure projects.
- EV and/or Hybrid vehicles are hard to get due to lack of supply. There are 2 hybrid police vehicles on order. Police vehicles are on a 3-year rotation. If vehicles are available 1/3 of fleet would be replaced annually.

Solar procurement Options:

- Another discussion of whether to own or municipal lease PV arrays
- We discussed PowerOptions as a non-RFP vendor. We will continue to get information from Power Options
- Mark Farber recommended that the Town withdraw from CVEC. Leasing the land and parking is easy (found money). Leasing doesn't require any Town funds making it the most politically palatable. It is also easy to identify and allocate the revenue from a lease. Leasing may take less time to be up and running a year or two quicker than ownership. If the developer owns the arrays, the Town would need to find an entity to maintain and service. For a PPA agreement where the developer owns and put the burden on the developer.

Ownership

- Committee discussed recommending a dedicated fund or general enterprise fund to the SB and FinCom
- CVEC and PowerOptions have the same procurement model

Climate Leaders: Truro has completed all the criteria for Climate Leaders except a municipal decarbonization plan.

Lindsey said that PowerOptions can help with such a plan and know if there are grants that can help defray the cost. Once a Climate Leader, the Town will qualify for additional grants.

Financial Considerations: Conversations around budget impacts, potential funding sources, and managing increased costs.

Mark Farber Farewell: Members appreciate Mark for all the good work he's done over the years. Mark offered to help compete NMC sale process and Solar procurement process.

Next meeting tentatively February 26, 20

Adjourned 6:04 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Bob Higgins-Steele

