Bristol Energy Committee September 16, 2020 @ 7:00pm Zoom Meeting Notes

Present: Sally Burrell, Mike Corey, John McCormick, Richard Butz

Vacancy on the committee

• Given Lance and Liston's resignations, which we accept with thanks for their service, we are down one member. Sally will notify the Select Board of the opening.

Veto override

• John will contact other Energy Committees to advise them of action needed regarding the need to override the Governor's veto of the Global Warming Solutions Act.

Electric Landscaping

- Jay Thomas of Bear Mountain Mowing engaged in a Q & A regarding his all electric lawn service. This triggered a discussion regarding how the committee could encourage the use of electric lawn and garden equipment because of their low carbon emissions and advancement in design and battery capacity.
- Sally will invite Jay to one of our meetings.
- We'll all collect information on electric equipment and will discuss how we bring this to town residents and officials at the next meeting.

Button-up Wednesdays - Weatherization Wednesday this week featured the VT Energy Education Program (VEEP), a great resource for teachers, parents, students for science, math, energy and technology projects.

- Button-up Vermont at <u>www.buttonupvermont.org</u> offers tips and incentives to weatherize your home.
- Right now there is a \$100 rebate for qualified weatherization products you use on DIY projects.
- The site also has DIY videos and rebate information.
- There is also a fundraiser to support low income Vermonter who have run into asbestos or vermiculite when weatherizing.

Bristol Town Plan

- There is a hearing on the Bristol Town Plan via Zoom on October 6. Check the town website or FPF for links.
- The plan includes the new enhanced energy plan and citizens are encouraged to tune in.

Review building energy standards (RBES) and adherence in Bristol.

• Sally will look into how our building regulations conform to best practice regarding energy efficiency. This will be a critical component in reducing carbon emissions and should be covered in the Town Plan.

LIHEAP (Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program)

- John spoke about the Governor's allocation of \$20 million to the state heating assistance program with 15% allocated to weatherization. Additional federal money might also be allocated through the CARES ACT.
- Low income residents need to apply directly to LIHEAP