

## Belmont Energy Committee

December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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BELMONT, MA

DATE: April 18, 2023  
TIME: 9:23 AM

### Opening

The regular meeting of the Belmont Energy Committee was called to order at 19 o'clock as a virtual meeting led by James Booth.

### Present

- Claus C Becker – Scribe
- Marty Bitner
- James Booth - Chair
- John Kolterman
- Brian Kopperl
- Greg Piotrowicz
- Alex Thurston
- Roger Wrubel

### Absent

Ellie Lesser, Ben Thivierge, Donald Mercier

### Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

### Open Issues

#### 1. Approval of November 16 Minutes

Minutes were approved with minor changes.

2 Warrant article regarding adoption of opt-in specialized stretch code. Applies to major alterations and new construction for one- or two-family homes. State provides sample warrant article. Belmont has to adopt the code as-is or not adopt it at all.

3 Warrant article regarding authorizing 10-year lease of electric busses and other electric vehicles was discussed. Ten-year lease is necessary in some cases to capture the savings of a switch to electric vehicles. Need to figure out where to best park the vehicles and ensure charging.

4 The Belmont Middle and High School Building Committee (“BMHSBC”) designed a net-zero school building, a plan later endorsed by voters. Warrant article regarding BMHS solar-investment tax-credit grant for final phase of solar install was discussed.

\$2.7M contract for solar panel installation has been awarded to same electrician firm which was responsible for the wiring of the BMHS during construction. This will release approximately \$685k federal support, which could finance the remainder of the solar roof, approximately 160kW. Additional investment will release further tax credits.

5 Energy Committee can provide representative for Structural Change Implementation Committee. This committee is chaired by Paul Rickter whom we will ask for more information about what the role entails.

6 Housing production plan. Committee discussed impact of having three- (or more) floor residential buildings.

7 Committee discussed value of opening a grant writing position. Today, departments apply for grant money as time allows. Given shortage of staff, town departments report that they are unable to allocate time for grant writing. We can tap our “green community” status for more revenue.

8 Library building committee is starting planning work for building construction. First half of 2023 will be taken up by design study. Soil samples will be taken to understand impact of the brook that runs by the site. Unclear where interim library will be.

9 Committee discussed ability to refresh greenhouse gas inventory. James Booth would like to redo previous analyses to assess progress towards goals. This is a time-consuming project and committee discussed possibility of enlisting a volunteer to automate some of the work

10 Hockey rink building committee. No news.

## **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 21 o'clock by James Booth. Next meeting to be January 18<sup>th</sup> at 19 o'clock.