

REAC Minutes January 9, 2020

Attendance: Pete LaFond, Donna Lee Cheney, Dave Low, Rich Bicknell, Councilor Cahan

Also present: USM Student Afton Trotter

Absent: Alan Solander, Lynn Breckinridge

Agenda items:

- **Establish Quorum** a quorum was established
- **Review of draft December 5, 2019 draft minutes** were approved unanimously
- **Public Comment** public comment opened and closed; no members of the public gave comment
- **Energy Case Study—USM Student, Afton Trotter**

Afton presented an overview of lighting in general. The presentation included an analysis of the streetlights as well as the interior lighting upgrades.

The streetlight project's annual savings are approximately \$75,000 with a 5.8 year payback.

The interior lighting project's annual savings weren't as straight forward as the streetlights due to the nature of the lighting; moreover, there were a variety of different types of lighting needs. There were outliers in the data from 2018 to 2019 in the summer months at the public works and fire department. The loss in savings from the lighting upgrades in power is likely due to the increase in electrical use attributing to increases in a demand for air conditioning.

Kimberly is going to send the presentation to the group. Dave has also requested to see if EMC has energy data on the fixtures themselves; Pete also thinks it would be good for the newsletter.

- **Plastic Straw Ban Proposal update**

Donna reported that she spoke with Cathy Breen, who reported that the State does not have any laws on the table for banning plastic straws state wide. The majority of businesses have already implemented request only policies if they haven't changed over to the alternatives yet. Kimberly and Donna are presenting this information to the Town Council's ordinance committee on January 16.

REAC voted to recommend to the Town council a ban on plastic straws January 1, 2021.

- **Municipal Building Ordinance**

The draft ordinance is going to be sent to the committee and will be reviewed ahead of the next meeting to be discussed in February.

- **Business Sustainability Certification**

Stafford Investments by Town Landing (Pete LaFond). A good way to start this could be a feature in the newsletter.

- **Earth Day 2020 Update**

Dick presented an update on the Earth Day planning events for April through May.

- **Home Energy Fair, Sat January 25**

Pete will get coffee. Dick is going to help in the morning set up. Donna will help with afternoon.

- **Education on Composting**

Kimberly will work with Rich to finalize this brochure and bring to the next meeting.

- **Next meeting date, February 6, 2020**

- **Adjourned meeting at 7:05pm.**

Other business Pete and Dick recently saw a film about “PFAS” called *Dark Waters*.

Councilor Cahan requested more information on vehicle purchase policies as well as green procurement.