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Minutes *Energy committee* *July 14, 2022*

Committee members present at the meeting: Brendan Denehy, Jan Reimers, Tracy Perry and Scott Butcher.

Brendan called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Minutes

Jan moved, seconded by **Tracy**, to approve the minutes of the June 30th meeting; Vote was unanimous.

Town Hall HVAC Discussion

Brendan stated that the Town Hall A/C units are nearing end of life and there was a recent issue with downstairs unit losing refrigerant. Combined with the furnace issues last winter, there is some urgency to address the Town Hall HVAC needs. He reiterated the desire to go with a 5 zone solution that would include A/C for the 3rd floor. He said the estimate from Keith McBrien from EEI was \$70K to do that but wasn't sure that included the labor to install. He will ask Keith for clarification on that.

Review Decision Matrix

Brendan started the discussion of Town Hall energy usage and cost information provided by Keith McBrien. There was discussion among the committee members regarding the annual heating oil usage for Town Hall and Keith's use of \$2.50/gallon as a cost basis for his financial analysis comparing oil/AHU solution versus VRF for heating and colling the building. The current and projected electricity usage was also discussed since the VRF solution would be an all electric system. It was noted that the quote from Absolute included a 40 gallon hot water heater if the VRF solution was chosen since the current oil forced hot water furnace would be removed. **Tracy** discussed how to evaluate each of the proposed solutions and how to best calculate the payback period or return on investment. She also discussed whether the decision matrix being created for the Selectboard should include the overall efficiency of each solution and the environmental considerations such as emissions. **Brendan** said that he would discuss the funding mechanisms available with the Selectboard at their next meeting which might include using ARPA funds, a warrant article, existing capital reserve funds, or lease-to-own options.

Next Meeting

No date was set for the next meeting.

At 8:40pm **Jan** moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by **Tracy**.

Minutes submitted by Scott Butcher.