

Agenda and Summary for Claverack Climate Smart meeting of May 27, 2021

Agenda for Tuesday, May 25 Climate Smart Claverack Monthly Meeting

- Welcome
- Summary of April 27 Meeting (see below)
- Current Projects Status
 - Greenhouse Gas Inventory -
 - Streetlight Conversion to LED
 - Hydropower and New Town Building
- Communications and Publicity -
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- Stretch Building Codes (PE 6)
 - See links below and attached NYSERDA FAQ sheet on Stretch energy code
- Discussion of other Climate Smart Actions
 - Solar -
 - Examples of other towns - Chatham, Ancram?
- Other / new business

Summary of May 27 2021 Meeting

Attending: Bradley, Cashen, Kiplinger, Proper, Varga Excused: Nislich, Weninger

Project Updates

- Current Projects Status
 - Greenhouse Gas Inventory - We expect to have the report for our review We received partial draft of the GHG Inventory from the Staff of the capital District Regional Planning COMmission (CPRPC). THEir intern noted that several data elements were missing and are being tracked down.
 - Streetlight Conversion to LED
Conversion costs have been requested from N-GRID and NYSEG, the two utilities that own the streetlights in Claverack. A proposed contract with NYSEG was presented to the Town Board Workshop on May 24 and approved. THE Town will pay for the remaining value of 45 sodium street lights in the Mellenville area, and with the savings from LED, the payback will be about six months.. It is hoped that the conversion will be installed will be before the end of 2021.

- Hydropower and New Town Building
The current status of the new municipal building was discussed. The Town Board has not made a decision on commencing a planning process. Katy did explain that the talk is to consolidate the operations from the small building by the Town Park and the Court into the new building which would include a multifunctional community room. Speculatively speaking, space needs could be around 10,000 sf.
- Communications and Publicity
 - Kathleen explained how she has set up our Facebook page as a Group (Community Organization) and can be used to encourage friends to 'like' us and thereby be followers that will thereby see our posts. We can build our following by asking our friends who use Facebook to look at our page and 'Like' us.
 - The committee discussed the importance of finding ways of reaching more Claverack residents, attracting volunteers, and building the committee. It was agreed that this should be an ongoing topic for committee discussion, and we need to keep taking small steps.
- Stretch Building Codes (PE 6)
 - John briefly explained the Stretch Building Codes action. The State revises its energy efficiency building codes every three years, to continually move toward NYS's emission reduction goals. The next improved code will come into effect in two years. Energy efficiency will be realized if a town adopts this code in the current year, and the Certification system awards points. Similarly, if the Town builds a building to this higher standard, it receives additional points. While this 'Action' makes significant emissions reductions, it also requires some effort in terms of additional training of the building inspection staff and education of the contractor and design community. Because of the pushback on this action, smaller communities have been less successful in its implementation than larger more sophisticated towns. Imre offered to learn more about this topic.
 - A NYSERDA FAQ sheet on Stretch energy code was attached to the meeting agenda email prior to the meeting.
- Other Business - no other topics were raised for discussion.
 - The Meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM

Summary by John Bradley, 5/30 2021

