



**IREC Steering Committee Meeting
Minutes of October 10, 2023 Meeting**

Present: Linda Gray, Jeff Grout, Ryan Haac, Erica Ko, David Lutz, Jenevra Wetmore

1. Welcome / agenda
2. Minutes of the September 14, 2023, meeting approved.
3. Every IREC town that applied for the MERP assessment grant has been awarded. Thetford has not yet applied; the other 5 towns have been awarded assessments. Approximately 170 towns across the state have been applied; assessments will be done earliest for high energy-burden towns, and all assessments are scheduled to be completed by the end of Feb 2024. Towns can expect about a month's notice prior to the assessment; Jeff will attend each. DuBois & King is one of 3 contractors performing the assessments.
4. Bradford energy fair rescheduled for Saturday, October 21, 11 am to 3 pm. Nancy will circulate info for all towns to publicize.
5. EV Update: Sharon's school Supervisory Union has been awarded an EPA rebate for 3 electric school buses; bus contractor is Student Transportation of America. Level 2, dual-port charging stations will be installed in Sharon, Strafford, and Stockbridge. Butler Bus serves both Thetford and Woodstock; they also have funding for electric school buses. Discussion about other funding opportunities for EV charging equipment that Thetford might pursue.
 - EV charger repair in Norwich could be complete.
 - EV charger repair at Woodstock East Park under investigation by IREC.
6. Other business:
 - Investigation continues into the Sharon solar array that could be used for community or municipal solar. It was reported that the Sharon Energy Committee doesn't see a particular benefit for the town to pursue ownership. The array has a contract with GMP to sell power at \$.30/kWh through 2037; the proposed selling price is \$6-7 million. Ryan is meeting soon with local solar developers for ideas, and will keep the group posted. Erica asked for ideas on persuading landlords to invest in solar for their rental properties; solar for renters could be an element of the Sharon solar array.
 - The 9/30 Drive Electric event had about 300 attendees; the Town of Hartford bought 2 Toro zero-turn, riding electric mowers. Jeff will suggest to Hartford Energy Manager Dana Clawson that he pursue local news articles about the



move to electric mowers. After Hartford gets some experience with the e-mowers, Jeff will organize a meeting with each of the IREC DPW directors.

Respectfully Submitted:

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