**City of Newburyport**

**Energy Advisory Committee Meeting**

7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

April 30, 2020

**Distance Meeting on Zoom**

AGENDA

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 7:00 PM | Meet with NGrid Reps: Lori Timmerman and Joseph Muraco |
| 7:45 PM | Aggregation and Community Solar |
| 8:00 PM | Constellation Contract |
| 8:15 PM | Solar on land fill |
| 8:30 PM | City Hall Update |
| 8:45 PM | Other Business |
| 9:00 PM | Adjourn |
|  |  |
|  |  |

**Current Members and Terms:**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Term up January 2022** | **Term up January 2023** | **Term up January 2021** | **Ex Officio** | **Resources** |
| **Willam Clary** | **Richard England** | **Cliff Goudey** | **Molly Ettenborough** | **Jenny Lemarre** |
| **Manfred Raschke** | **Don Walters** | **Mike Strauss** |  | **Phil Huzeler** |
| **Arthur Wallace** | **Jo Ann Clemens** | **Stephen Wiehe** |  | **David McDougall** |
|  | **Pauliina Swartz** | **Phil Smith** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

Questions sent to NGrid:

**Transition to Net0**

* The current paradigm is to move everything to electric for net0.  If so, our local grid will have to have roughly 4x the capacity to handle transportation and HVAC.  What needs to be done to upgrade the grid to handle it?
* EV Charging station survey results- NGrid looked at 8 additional sites in addition to the three we already have in town.  Can we review the list and have you heard anything back from David Z?
* Transportation study.  Can Ngrid do a transportation survey of all city fleets at no charge to us?  We want to learn more about this to have it done.
* What programs/partnerships are available between the city and NGrid for:

a.       Residents (Community Enery Efficiency grants)

b.      Commercial and Industrial

c.       Municipal

**Streetlights**

* We have control ready streetlights and would like to add controls so we may do many more functions.  Unfortunately, the current tariff does not allow for actual usage only an algorithm based on projected use.  We would like a tariff that bills for actual use and we can give actual use using revenue grade meters.  There are several precedents for this:

a.       400MW solar review by DOER suggests that customer owned meters be allowed for billing on solar systems as long as they are certified revenue grade.  <https://www.mass.gov/files/documents/2019/09/04/400%20MW%20Review%20DRAFT%20090419.pdf> slide 21

b.      Georgia Power has metered their smart lighting using smart lighting controls from Telensa. These controls offer the same accuracy and reliability (EMC testing) as Georgia Power supplied utility meters: As a reference here is the link to the webinar which explains how Georgia Power has solved smart street lighting control and billing is a solved problem.

<https://www.navigantresearch.com/webinars/smart-street-lighting> Go to 16:47 in the webinar to hear Scotty discuss Georgia Powers requirement for LED street lamp control metering with “revenue grade meteorology” (and why its important to the utility) “the only practical solution was to meter the lights”. Telensa is vendor they partnered with. And a Forbes article which summarizes the webinar..

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/pikeresearch/2018/11/20/the-utility-case-for-smart-street-lighting-insights-from-georgia-power/#45a69b882ed0>

* Would NGrid be willing to work on piloting this with the city?

**Resiliency and peak demand**

* What transformers need to be moved to higher ground?
* How is it decided when new transformers are needed, either for replacements or capacity?  Is Boyd Dr. on the list?
* Burying utility cables / adding utility corridors: the process, problems and costs.  Can it be done more efficiently/cheaply by planning ahead and combining burying with planned road repavement, water and sewer upgrades, etc.  What would be need to be done and who would own them?
* Microgrids, battery storage, and backup power: What facilities and areas make sense and are there programs to help put them in place?

**Billing**

* We use a significant amount of AOBC from solar.  How can we assign the AOBCs to master accounts instead of individual accounts?
* How can we get tech support for the NGrid website that contains all the billing and usage info for all the municipal accounts?  There have been problems in naming and editing names for accounts among other things.