TOWN OF BECKET ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING November 21, 2023, 4 PM Minutes

In attendance (via Zoom): Garth Klimchuk (Chairman), Susan Purser (Secretary), Julie Craumer, Al Blake.

Absent: Cathy DeFoe (Vice-Chairman); Katherine Warden (Town Administrator)

Guests: Dan Britton, Sun Bug Solar; Sean Howe and Grace, Sunwealth

- 1. Called meeting to order at 4:02pm
- 2. Approved minutes of October 24, 2023 meeting Susan, Al and Julie.
- 3. Joint Letter re MassSave and community solar The preliminary letter from the Energy Committee, BCAC and SunWealth publicizing the MassSave program and community solar was tentatively approved by the Select Board pending final review at the BOS's December meeting. Julie showed a draft of the final letter to be reviewed at that meeting. Following final approval, committee members will meet informally to prepare the mailing so it goes out before the holidays start. The group discussed the best form of outreach to the R2 (reduced electric rate) community in Becket. A second letter will be sent later informing Becket residents of the Homeworks program that provides residential home conservation services somewhat similar to MassSave.
- 4. Dan Britton, Sunbug Solar/Revision (dan.britton@sunbugsolar.com) The Committee invited Dan to discuss a potential solar project on the roof of Town Hall and the broadband building next door. He has worked with municipal solar projects before including with the Town of Windsor. Sunbug which was recently acquired by Revision, is a contractor that installs solar arrays, EV charging stations and more. Dan suggests a "purchase system" instead of a power purchase agreement where you get 30% back. Considerations Dan mentioned included the age of the roofs, need for an RFP, a funding search, net metering parameters (below 25kW is simpler), and is the phase 3 power 208 or 204? Dan asked that we send him the latest electric bill for Town Hall and he will do some calculations and

- design parameters for us. He suggested that the wind turbine be put behind one meter and solar behind another.
- 5. Next month 1.) Committee members should review the Energy Committee website before the December meeting, 2.) write a summary for the Annual Report, 3.) discuss how to demonstrate public support for the wind turbine project as recommended by the wind consultant. Also, the budget is due by the end of the year.
- 6. Next meeting: Tuesday, December 19, 2023, 4 PM, In person and via Zoom.
- 7. Adjourned at 5:01pm.

J. Garth Klimchuk, Chairman