

**West Newbury Energy and Sustainability Committee**  
**January 3, 2024, 17:30**

**Present:** Elisa Grammer, Chip Wallace, Rick Parker, Stephen Doran

- **DPW Solar Project**
  - Site investigation attended by Chip, Rick, and Butch (highway supervisor)
  - Goal: Make the project as big as possible (greater than feasibility study)
  - Waiting for feedback from Select
- **DPU Oil and Gas Pipeline Order**
  - DPU released an order and press release
    - Phasing out new gas distribution from MA.
    - Working with municipalities
- **Inspectional Services Fees**
  - Rick discussed with Sam Joslin (building inspector)
    - Committee to review fee schedule and make a proposal of changes.  
**Ideas discussed**
      - Construction fees:
        - Waive new construction fees for high efficiency homes
        - Waive electrical fees for new additions
          - EV charging stations
          - PV installations
      - Water Heater:
        - Eliminate fee for heat pump and solar
- **MassCEC Grant**
  - Applying for a grant to fund a consultant to help assess decarbonization upgrades of a non-profit or public service building over 20,000 sqft.
    - Building proposed is **Town office building**
    - Application to be completed
    - Consultants are pre-selected
    - Environmental justice communities (minority, income, English isolation) are prioritized
  - Committee agrees to apply. Will need to inform the Select Committee of intention. Rick will call MassCEC to verify that the 1910 Building is eligible.

**AOB**

- Public meeting held on December 20<sup>th</sup>, DPU reversing course on municipal aggregation and other issues.
- Looking to be more flexible and less bureaucratic hassle, quicker review of applications.
- Next step for municipal aggregation in WN is to file for DOER review.

**Next meeting:** February 7, 2024