

**Joint Thetford Energy Committee Meeting Draft Minutes
May 4, 2023, 6:00 to 7:30 PM**

Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83716394331>

Meeting ID: 837 1639 433; Passcode: 657588

By Phone: 1 646 558 8656

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JTEC Present: Erica, Tom, Alice, Chuck, Chris, Weston

Guests Present:

Call to order: 6:11 pm

6:11 Review and Approve April 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Minutes Available Here:

<https://www.thetfordvt.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/3892/638109528999200000>

Previous Minutes approved unanimously. Erica Motioned, Alice seconded.

6:15 No Mow May

No Mow May moved to top of agenda.

- Thetford Academy is participating in No Mow May but not sure about Thetford Elementary.
- Select board decided that they would mow no more than every other week throughout the summer but not a firm participation.
- Overall mixed feelings on no mow may. Debate on how effective it is for pollinators and using less energy by mowing.
- Athletic fields will need an exception to no mow may.
- Select board voted against no mow May 3 – 2
- Potential project to reduce the size of mowing for the town green. Add more pollinators to reduce mowing cost. Would need to work with conservation commission to determine feasibility. Tom to reach out to them.
- Alice asked if the IREC could see if we could put an RFP out for multiple towns requiring lawn care to use electric mowers.
- Weston & Alice to hang up educational posters at Post Mills Library and Town Hall
- Discussion of whether or not we are going to participate in lawn walks.

6:30 Updates:

TES Solar

TES Solar update from Nolan:

- due to the fact that we would be transferring the RECs, the VLS Energy Institute will not work with us. I need to update the TES school board on the circumstances, and see

what their opinion is moving forward. No word from the PUC either way. I'd like to contact GMP to see if they would administer the array, but would need to okay that with their counsel before doing so. I'm hoping to hear word from the PUC before I do.

Weston potentially to develop a new solar array in Thetford in which he would work with the town for discounted net metering credits and potentially use local low-moderate income households as well.

Grassroots Fund/WD

Nolan has a Zoom meeting with the Grassroots fund on May 16 at 11:00. I'll need details on the program thus far, and our plans for the funds moving forward.

Mary to bring Grassroots Fund Grant to selectboard.

6:45 IREC Updates and EV Charger Next Steps

IREC Updates

- Asked selectboard to apply MURF mini grant, which we think they did. \$4000 going to education and outreach. Likely we will get it.

Adjourn 7:09 pm

Future Meeting Topics

Decision making criteria for efficiency investment (Marc Chabot)

Next Meeting June 1, 2023