



www.shaftsburyvt.gov

Town of Shaftsbury

Municipal Offices at Cole Hall

Meeting Minutes

PO Box 409
61 Buck Hill Road
Shaftsbury, VT
05262-0409
(802) 442-4038

Energy Committee

Date of Meeting:

June 17, 2025, 6:00 PM (EST) at Cole Hall and remotely via Zoom

Members Present:

Andrea E. Bacchi (Chair), Bill Christian (Vice Chair), Wayn Goodman (Committee Member)

Guest(s): None

1. Call to Order

Chair Ms. Andrea Bacchi called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

2. Conflict of Interest Declaration

Chair Ms. Bacchi asked if any members had a conflict of interest. None were declared.

3. Approval of Minutes from April 1, 2025

Ms. Bacchi asked for any corrections. None were made.

Motion to approve the April 1, 2025 minutes made by Committee Member Wayn Goodman; seconded by Vice Chair, Bill Christian.

Vote: Motion passed unanimously, 3–0.

4. Public Comment

No members of the public were present.

5. Committee Discussion & Updates

A. Collaboration with Bennington Energy Committee

i. Ms. Bacchi discussed potential collaboration with the Bennington Energy Committee following a conversation at the Mayfest event.

ii. Ms. Bacchi will follow up with Bill Karis to explore how two members of the Bennington Energy Committee may join the Shaftsbury Energy Committee to increase capacity, dialogue and community impact.

B. Efficiency Vermont Program Updates

Ms. Bacchi shared key updates from Efficiency Vermont:

i. DIY Weatherization Rebate: Now only requires 1 project to qualify (previously 3).

- ii. Heat Pump Incentives (effective April 1, 2025):
 - 1. Ductless systems under 2 tons: \$500
 - 2. Ductless 2+ tons: \$600
 - 3. Ducted systems under 2 tons: \$1,200
 - 4. Ducted systems 2–4 tons: \$1,700
 - 5. Ducted systems 4+ tons: \$2,200
- ii. Flood Recovery Rebate Program: Ends June 30, 2025.
- iii. Drive Electric Vermont Website: Updated website now live – “Charging Forward to a Better Future.”
- iv. Chair Bacchi plans to include these updates in the next email campaign.

C. Energy Resource Directory for Shaftsbury Website

- i. Ms. Bacchi was asked by Selectboard Chair Naomi Miller to create a public-facing document of energy resources (like the business directory created by the Economic Development Committee).
- ii. This resource will be accessible via the Town website and possibly created as a live link via Canva, with editing access available to committee members.
- iii. The resource will include rebate info, contacts, and external links.

D. Solar-Powered Signage Proposal

- i. Ms. Bacchi introduced the idea of a solar-powered welcome sign for the future Town Office on Route 7A.
- ii. Committee members supported exploring options, including using solar for sign lighting.
- iii. Ms. Bacchi will research sign restrictions, cost, and vendor options.

E. Committee Recruitment

- i. Ms. Bacchi will follow up with potential new members and is open to interested residents from Bennington County.
- ii. Committee members were encouraged to refer candidates and share the town energy committee email in case anyone had questions and would like to contact Ms. Bacchi. Email: Energy1@ShaftsburyVT.gov

F. Other Program & Outreach Updates

- i. Pellet Bag Recycling: No update yet; Ms. Bacchi is still playing phone tag with the teacher at Shaftsbury Elementary who runs the program.

G. Green Up Day Planning for 2026: Deferred until Recreation Committee is contacted.

H. Email Campaign: Last campaign was sent in May. A new one will go out soon.

- i. New signups occurred via social media and Front Porch Forum.

I. Additional Updates & Announcements

i. Window Dressers Program

1. Bill Christian is assisting as a measurer.
2. Committee recommends including a standing link in the footer of each energy newsletter for ongoing access to the Window Dressers program and sign-up form.
3. The goal is to build ~250 inserts this year. Eligibility is limited based on window size and shape.
4. Window Dressers Facebook Page
 - a. Ms. Bacchi confirmed she is still an admin of the Bennington County Window Dressers Facebook page and offered to assist with social media posting or grant access to other admins.

J. Committee Coordination & Technology Tools

- i. Canva will be used for shared energy resources.
- ii. Committee discussed password management briefly in a sidebar, recommending strategies for security.

K. Action Items Review

i. Andrea Bacchi:

1. Follow up with Bennington Energy Committee re: potential members.
2. Compile and publish energy resource directory over the next two months.
3. Research solar sign vendors and Shaftsbury sign regulations.
4. Follow up with Shaftsbury School teacher about pellet bag recycling program.
5. Reach out to energy committees across Vermont to expand the newsletter reach.
6. Update and send out the next energy email campaign.

v. Bill Christian & Wayn Goodman:

1. Continue spreading the word about membership.
2. Provide feedback on energy resource directory when available.
3. Bill to send Window Dressers coordinator info.

6. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 1, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

Committee members confirmed availability.

UPDATE: The meeting needed to be rescheduled due to space conflicts. The new proposed meeting time is Tuesday, July 22 at 6:00 PM. To be determined.

7. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Wayn Goodman; seconded by Bill Christian.

Vote: Unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:24 PM.