Town of Hartford

Public Hearing

CEBE Grants

Approved Minutes

December 14, 2022

7pm @ Hartford Town Hall and Zoom

Present in person: CEBE representatives Claire Glichney, Rene Igo, Selectmen Cathy Lowe, Lee Holman, Susan Goulet, Town Clerk Lianne Bedard, residents Leslie Boness and Daryl Boness.

Present via Zoom: Resident Richard Dyer.

Claire explained that the non-profit organization based in Norway, Maine is working with the State to assist towns in applying for grants and is looking for input from residents to see what is needed in Hartford.

Participants shared ideas of problems related to climate control: Weather events, rain in winter causes excessive salt use on roads, water levels in lakes and ponds, less snow causes economic impact such as ski resorts, snowmobiling and mental stress if residents aren’t able to engage in outside recreation during the winter, less snow to insulate homes, stress on people and pets, algal blooms in ponds and lakes, wildlife, ocean temperatures, wind, lyme disease, ticks, pesticide spraying, cooling centers, off grid and emergency centers, and charging stations.

Claire stated that the program launched in early 2022 and partner with the State to offer energy efficient grants. CEBE helps communities enroll in partnerships. The original coordinator is Yvette @ AVCOG.

CEBE will help submit enrollment materials and AVCOG will also help.

Action grants are available every six months in the amount of $50,000.00 or $125,000 if a project is collaborated with another community. The grants do not require a match.

Steps to apply:

1. Enroll & complete self-assessment

2. Prioritize community actions

3. Pass a municipal resolution

4. Send to State

5. Apply for grants

The State has not turned anyone away yet but more and more communities are applying for grants. We should focus on climate efficiency for grants that do not require matching funds.

Residents paired up into groups to work on sections of the community action list to decide what is important to them.

Group results included: EV chargers for commuters, broadband, weatherization, upgrade to energy efficient lighting, heat pumps and heat pump powered hot water heaters, ordinances to allow renewable energy installation projects, implement protection plan for lakes and ponds, create inventory and assessment of vulnerable populations, evacuation plans, identify and plan to reduce public health threats, develop and implement extreme temperatures emergency plan including cooling centers, implement programs to educate about tick borne disease prevention, DEP stream smart crossing guidelines are currently being used, create climate change education programs for residents and businesses, and amplify public health advisories for climate related health and weather events.

The Public Hearing ended at 8:30pm

The next Public Hearing will be held on January 12, 2022 7pm @ Hartford Town Hall and via Zoom.

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Cathy Lowe Date

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Lee Holman Date

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Susan Goulet Date