

## REPORT TO THE CITY FROM THE ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY TASK FORCE

In the last year, the Warrensburg Energy and Sustainability Task Force has worked with the city in two important areas. One was asking the city to approve Show Me PACE as a new PACE provider in the city which would specifically work with businesses and non-profits to promote energy improvements. The city council did approve Show Me Pace during the last year. The second area was the further exploration of solar possibilities for the city with the recommendation, at our last meeting, to go forward with a solar system at fire station 2 that would supply 50% of the electricity for that facility; this would be around a 50KWH system. Depending upon the different possible purchase or lease options, this percentage could change as some companies require minimum sizes for lease options. (One company contacted has a 100 KWH system as a minimum for leasing.) We would recommend that the solar array be placed on the ground, rather than the roof of the fire station if at all possible.

We are thankful that the city now has an employee, Danielle Dulin, who will be part of our meetings. This should improve communication between our task force and the city as we work together in different areas. We are looking forward to this working arrangement.

We have also been looking at ways the city can improve efficiency (and save money), using the booklet "Climate Action Playbook, 2019" published by Climate Action KC, a coalition in the KC area. We do realize that the coronavirus has affected the income of the city and its budget for next year, but we would suggest two areas that we think would be low-cost yet financially beneficial to the city. One is 'Train City Staff in Efficient Behavior', and the other 'Energy Performance Contracts', found on pages 13 and 15, respectively, of the "Climate Action Playbook". There are other actions in this playbook that would be more community-wide focuses that we will explore as our task force begins meeting again.

One idea that we suggested in last year's report that has not progressed much is that of determining the city's baseline energy usage data, which could then be used to measure progress as the city makes efforts to reduce energy consumption. This could be part of the city's on-going goals each year.

Again, we know there are adjustments to be made in the city budget because of the coronavirus. However, to make progress in energy efficiency and sustainability, it seems necessary that there be money budgeted for these areas. Thus, we would like the city to consider a funding stream for these areas. Possibly it could be patterned after the way the city has provided money for the Warrensburg Arts Commission. One idea would be to consider part of the money the city receives from citizens related to energy usage such as the city taxes and franchise taxes on our gas and electric bills; we encourage the city council to look at all options.

Finally, two city-wide project ideas: 1) we are exploring ways that a cooperative effort of the city, Heartland Waste, and community members could improve the recycling and yard waste collection area in the alley between Pine and Culton Streets, and 2) we are considering ways the city and community members can cooperate to reduce water runoff from properties which would also be beneficial to Warrensburg's storm water system.

