

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

The Sustainable Energy Commission held a regular meeting Thursday, October 20, 2016 in shared meeting room 3 of the Municipal Center located at 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT 06470.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Kathy Quinn at 7:05p.m.

Present: Chairman Kathy Quinn, George Brown, Jeff Jorgenson, Dave Stout, Barbara Toomey

Also Present: Fred Hurley

Absent: Joseph Borst, Steve Gogliettino, Mark Sievel

Communications: Ms. Quinn said that the portion of the green bank that helps promote renewable energy is being shut down. Mr. Stout stated the green bank would continue as a capital provider and he thinks the only benefit on the town side was the marketing and promotions. There will be more of an emphasis on the conservation measures.

Public Comments: none.

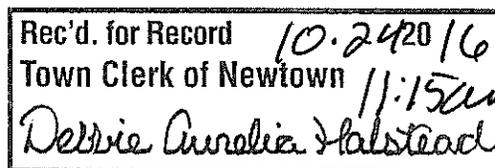
Acceptance of Minutes: Ms. Toomey moved to accept the minutes of June 16, 2016. Mr. Stout seconded. All in favor. Mr. Brown moved to accept the minutes of the July 21, 2016 meeting. Mr. Jorgenson seconded. All in favor. Mr. Stout moved to accept the minutes of the September 15, 2016 meeting. Ms. Quinn seconded. All in favor.

Business:

- a. **Status of Landfill Solar Projects:** Mr. Hurley reported the interconnection cost increased from \$100,000 to \$500,000. As a result Solar City is asking for a 2.3 cent increase in order to pay for it. This will be amortized over fifteen years. The credit on the bill is more substantial than originally thought, approximately 15 cents with the cost of electricity increased from 6 to 8 cents. The Town and the Board of Education work together to achieve economies of scale. There is no escalator on the Solar City landfill project.
- b. **Reed School solar project:** Mr. Hurley looked at capacity credits that belonged to the meter owner and found there are enormous penalties if you miss peak days. Ms. Toomey asked about the recent Board of Education discussion about possibly closing the Middle School. Mr. Hurley said that if the building is closed, and not repurposed, the investors need to be made whole.

ADD TO THE AGENDA: Mr. Brown moved to add to the agenda, for discussion and possible action, recommendations for utilization of the green bank grants. Mr. Stout seconded. All in favor.

- c. **Grant Funds:** Ms. Quinn said a decision has to be made on how to spend grant funds. The use has to be related to educational purposes on energy projects or for additional clean energy production or the reduction or conservation of energy. After collaborative discussion about EV charging stations, a street light consultant and educational ideas Mr. Stout moved to spend \$3,000 to \$5,000 of the grant funds on a lighting consultant and the remaining on an EV charging station, which can be supplemented with budget money. Ms. Toomey seconded. The motion passed with one recusal (Jorgenson). Mr. Hurley noted that Celtic will be called as the consultant.



d. Energy Savings program update

Municipal Center: The agreement has been signed and is in the works.

Waste Water Treatment Plant: The agreement has been signed and is in the works.

Middle Gate School: no update.

Edmond Town Hall: no update.

e. Microgrid feasibility study: This is still being worked on.

f. Street Lighting: as discussed under Grant Funds, Mr. Hurley will engage Celtic to help package the street lighting project.

Additional Items for discussion:

1. **EV Charging stations:** As discussed earlier, grant funds, supplemented with budget money, will be used to purchase an EV charging station.
2. **Municipal Energy Plan:** no update.
3. **Portfolio Manager:** no update.
4. **Budget and Grant Spending:** this item was covered under Business: Grant Funds.
5. **Web Site:** no update.
6. **Outreach to Schools:** Mr. Hurley will reach out to Dr. Erardi; Mr. Stout suggested contacting the science teachers/departments at the schools.
7. **Bridgeport Eco-Park:** no update.
8. **Ban on Fracking Waste:** no update.
9. **Organic Recycling:** no update.

Adjournment: Having no other business, the Sustainable Energy Commission adjourned their regular meeting at 8:27pm.

The next regular meeting will be held on November 17, 2016.

Submitted, Susan Marcinek, clerk