

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

Regular Meeting – via teleconference

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Called to order at 7:00PM

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

Present via teleconference: Kathy Quinn, Zach Marchetti, Erik Weiss, Carol Walsh, Mark Sievel, Allen Adriani, Jackie Meriano, David Stout, George Brown (7:28pm)

Also Present via teleconference: Director of Public Works Fred Hurley, BOE Director of Facilities Bob Gerbert and Chuck Litty

Communications – None

Public Comments –None

Acceptance of Minutes – A. Adrianni moved to approve the minutes of the 3/18/21 meeting with the correction of the date, 2/18/21 should be 3/18/21. J. Meriano seconded, all in favor.

VNM solar project – New project waiting state approval– F. Hurley reported that there have been a few bills that have come out and some will be helpful. He also feels fairly certain the motion with PURA will have a positive outcome and one or the other will provide our last 1 MW to cover public buildings.

Electric Vehicles charging stations – M. Sievel reported that he contacted the project manager at Electrify that we are ready to go. Once they have a signed agreement, they will be able to move forward. After the contract is signed, they will provide construction timelines. F. Hurley requested the draft for technical specs to go to RFP. There is also an option to have SHOP take on the project as part of their lease.

School Updates:

Head of Meadow – The lighting project is 90-95% complete. The only thing that is lagging is the media center and the kitchen. It is because they are short on fixtures. Once they are in, they will be installed.

Hawley – They are hoping to have the estimate at the next Building and Site Commission meeting.

Reed – R. Gerbert asked them to go with a different brand of boiler to keep it consistent with the other schools. Once this gets approved at referendum, they can move forward with the project.

Other – The driveway at Sandy Hook school has about a dozen lights that were controlled by a separate time clock/photo cell that was located in a cabinet at the fire house. The time clock has been replaced and photocell repaired, now they are operating properly.

Update on Community/Senior Center co-generation meeting - F. Hurley reported that things are getting better but this is a work in progress. The general use of energy has dropped compared to what it was.

Municipal Building Strategic Plan Committee Overview – No update

Energy Star Portfolio Manager – K. Quinn has sat through two webinars and will do a next week for report writing and how to extract data. They are looking at this as a way of collecting energy usage per building so we can measure how we are doing.

Demand Reduction program, C Power, Generators – No update

Facebook presence – J. Meriano reported that they have reached 27 new people. Total page likes are 79. Posts were for Lose the Litter event on Saturday 4/24/21, as well as ideas around Earth Day such as this year's theme #RESTOREOUREARTH, and how to take part in Earth Day every day.

Municipal Energy Plan – No update

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE ADDRESSED

Changes to recycling/composting efforts – No update for the Town's recycling efforts. HRRA held a backyard composting class last night with over 70 attendees. A poll taken showed there were a large amount of Newtown residents in attendance.

Next meeting is May 20, 2021

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:41pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Arlene Miles, Clerk