

Town of Newtown, CT

3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

The Sustainable Energy Commission held a regular meeting Thursday, November 16, 2017 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 7:03p.m.

Present: Chairman Kathy Quinn, Allen Adriani, George Brown, Jeff Jorgenson, Mark Sievel, Dave Stout

Absent: Graham Clifford, Tom Snayd, Barbara Toomey

Communications: Ms. Quinn reported that Mr. Hurley signed off on the Direct Energy flier.

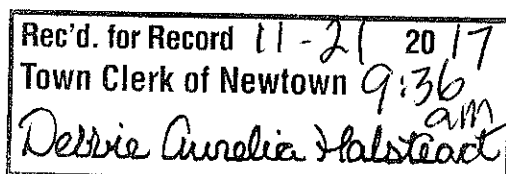
Public Comments: none.

Acceptance of Minutes: Mr. Jorgensen moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of Oct. 19, 2017. Mr. Stout seconded. All in favor.

Business

Discussion and possible action:

- a. **Status of Landfill Solar Project:** this project is under construction.
- b. **New Project – Sandy Hook School Solar:** this project is moving along; the Green Bank money review is holding it up. Ms. Quinn noted that Sandy Hook Fire Department, Sandy Hook Substation and Dodgingtown Fire Department will be getting solar.
- c. **Solomon Solar project:** no update; waiting on virtual net metering.
- d. **MLS Group – Nunnawauk Meadows – solar:** Mr. Stout will get in touch with Linda Manganaro of Nunnawauk Meadows.
- e. **Batchelder site – potential for solar:** Eleven firms are being interviewed. Mr. Hurley and Mr. Sibley are involved in this process.
- f. **Grant Funds**
New Bright Ideas10K Grant (sensors for lighting): Ms. Quinn spoke with Mr. Hurley. Some funds will be used to monitor lights and partial funding toward an electric vehicle for the town fleet is needed. Mr. Jorgensen questioned where the remaining funds for the car will come from. Ms. Quinn said that the Health Department is contributing \$25,000 from their budget; she will get more detail on that. The town is considering a white car with a wrap.
- g. **Energy Savings program update:**
Public Works – this project is 100% complete and waiting on sign off on financing.
Library – no update. Ms. Quinn will make contact.



New Construction projects:

Community Center: Mr. Jorgensen asked if anyone was following up on the list presented to the builders. Mr. Adriani said there will be variant volume refrigerant systems, which consumes more energy than a regular conventional hot water/chill water systems. There was discussion on the project oversight, who is in charge and who is making decisions.

Mr. Stout suggested inviting the First Selectman Elect to a meeting to discuss project oversight. The commission discussed coming in late on projects and feel they should be more a part of the planning process in town projects. Ms. Quinn said there are guidelines, prepared by Public Building & Site, relative to sustainability.

Police Department: no update.

General plan for schools: Gino Faiella is handling the schools. Ms. Quinn is concerned that the Green Bank and the efficiency fund out of CT may affect his plans. The Middle School has been converted to gas and the lighting is done. There is an overall plan to work on the high school in conjunction with the Eversource programs. Mr. Stout stated projects of that size should go out to an RFP and get three quotes. He said there are different technologies out there, some better than others, some cheaper than others.

Ms. Quinn suggested a meeting with Mr. Faiella to find out what the process is.

- h. **Microgrid feasibility study:** Ms. Quinn said anyone interested helping to evaluate all the information that is coming in should contact Fred Hurley. Ms. Quinn said Celtic was involved in some of this at one point, the state is pushing to do something and are also pushing for fieldstone technology to be incorporated where possible. Mr. Jorgensen asked how this differed from co-gen. Mr. Sievel stated you can island a section of microgrid; co-gen syncs a generator to the grid and pumps power back to the grid. Mr. Adriani spoke about a fuel cell put in to a 2.8 megawatt plant at Amity High School; the microgrid is connected to the high school, police station and the fire department.
- i. **Street Lighting:** no update.
- j. **High School Sustainability Program – funding possibilities:** no update.
- k. **Dashboard for website (API keys):** no update.

Additional Items for discussion:

- 1. **Sustainable CT:** no update; Chuck Leety is using the police department as a test building.
- 2. **Newtown Forward:** no update.
- 3. **Municipal Energy Plan:** no update.
- 4. **Energy Star Portfolio Manager:** no update.
- 5. **Web Site:** no update.
- 6. **Organic Recycling:** no update.
- 7. **Fracking Waste:** no update.

Adjournment: Having no other business, Mr. Sievel moved that the Sustainable Energy Commission adjourn their regular meeting at 8:08p.m. Mr. Adriani seconded. All in favor.

The next regular meeting will be held on Dec. 21, 2017.

Submitted, Susan Marcinek, clerk