

## **THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION**

The Sustainable Energy Commission held a regular meeting Thursday, December 21, 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 7:02p.m.

**Present:** Chairman Kathy Quinn, Allen Adriani, Graham Clifford, Jeff Jorgenson, Mark Sievel, Tom Snayd, Dave Stout, Barbara Toomey

**Also Present:** Fred Hurley, Dan Rosenthal, Chuck Litty

**Absent:** George Brown

**Communications:** Ms. Quinn shared an email from Natalia Sudyka, the Energy Efficiency Consultant (att.). Due to state budget constraints programs provided by Eversource, the Clean Energy Communities program are coming to an end. The Home Energy Solutions program and the SBEA programs will continue. Information on the Regional Conference for Sustainable Development (att.) and information on learning more about Sustainable CT (att.) were shared.

Mr. Stout stated he invited First Selectman Rosenthal to bring him up to date on the work of the Sustainable Energy Commission saying the commission does a lot of good work but come behind, rather than in the forefront, of town projects. First Selectman Rosenthal said that the next building project will be the new police facility and the commission can be brought in early. Ms. Toomey said that bidding firms need to know that Newtown is a Green town and certain criteria, such as having the building solar ready or set for EV charging stations, should be met. Mr. Litty stated having the commission involved from the beginning is critical. Mr. Stout said that each member has certain areas of expertise that can be helpful, there is a lot of knowledge to bring to the table.

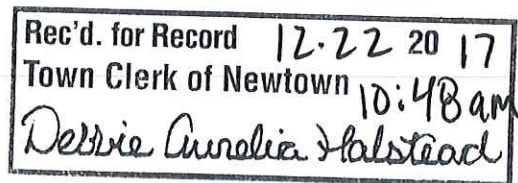
**Public Comments:** none.

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Mr. Stout moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of Nov. 16, 2017. Mr. Sievel seconded with the following corrections: page 2, Community Center, second sentence should read 'variable volume refrigerant', not 'variant'. (h) Microgrid, second sentence, should read 'fuel cell' not 'fieldstone'. All in favor of the amended minutes.

### **Business**

#### **Discussion and possible action:**

- a. **Status of Landfill Solar Project:** the panels are up; Eversource is on site to do the interconnection. Project is on schedule and should be running by the end of Feb. 2018.
- b. **New Project – Sandy Hook School Solar/Firehouses:** all these projects are going forward and should be running by the end of February.



- c. **Solomon Solar project/Windham:** still waiting on Virtual Net Metering credits. There is a total of 5 megawatts; Alco has lined up three more towns to take the remaining three.
- d. **MLS Group – Nunnawauk Meadows – solar:** they are looking at alternatives to do the project. Mr. Stout has spoken with Linda Manganaro. It is a difficult project. A solar project on the community center at Nunnawauk can be done but they want to do the bigger project
- e. **Batchelder site – potential for solar:** A consulting firm to do the final environmental studies has been chosen; to get through phase 2 and into phase 3. This will get to the point to put out an RFP for remediation. It will take into summer 2018, possibly fall 2018, to formulate a bid package to get the remediation company on board. Once that is done the goal is to leave the site available for a solar project. Groundwater does not show migration of contamination.
- f. **Grant Funds**  
**New Bright Ideas10K Grant (sensors for lighting):** There was discussion on what to use the grant for as the paperwork needs to be submitted by year end. Mr. Hurley stated the Chevy Bolt has been ordered. It will be wrapped. Mr. Hurley asked the commission for go green advertising ideas. Discussion revolved around another charging station and another electric vehicle. Mr. Stout moved that the commission use the grant money for an EV charging station and/or an electric vehicle. Mr. Adriani seconded. All in favor.
- g. **Energy Savings program update:**  
**Public Works** – this project is 100% complete; paperwork is filed and vendor has been paid.  
**Library** – no update. Ms. Quinn was unsure of what programs would be available. Mr. Stout stated that as far as incentive programs, its business as usual with Eversource.  
**New Construction projects:**  
**Community Center:** no update.  
**Police Dept.** was discussed earlier in the meeting.  
**General plan for schools:** no update.
- h. **Microgrid feasibility study:** on hold; no update.
- i. **Street Lighting:** no update; will remove from future agenda.
- j. **High School Sustainability Program – funding possibilities:** no update.
- k. **Dashboard for website (API keys):** Mr. Clifford said he needs the monitoring for Sandy Hook School; he will follow up with the installers of the firehouses as well as the landfill. He suggested putting information on the website to advertise the EV charging station

**Additional Items for discussion:**

- 1. **Sustainable CT: Newtown Forward:** They are still in the midst of the regional launch. It will be formally kicked off in January. Mr. Litty said that four towns have registered. Mr. Litty shared a two page document (att.) and explained certification and Sustainable CT categories. Ms. Quinn said that the commission would bring this forward to the Board of Selectmen for sign off on. Mr. Litty stated this is a state program with three philanthropic entities. Ms. Quinn will get more information at the January 9 meeting. Ms. Quinn said there are different groups in town, P&R, Conservation, Newtown Forest Association, Pootatuck Watershed that can be incorporated. There are also programs for kids. Ms. Quinn suggested the commission look at the Sustainable CT website; to be discussed further at the next meeting. Mr. Litty presented information on Town Hall



South Improvements to Improve the Triple Bottom Line (att.) Mr. Litty will send the entire presentation electronically to be discussed further at the meeting in February.

2. **Municipal Energy Plan:** no update.
3. **Energy Star Portfolio Manager:** no update.
4. **Web Site:** Mr. Stout requested marketing material from Mr. Jorgenson relative to the EV charging station to put on the website.
5. **Organic Recycling:** the program has over 600 participants. Mr. Hurley spoke about pay as you throw saying it is a possibility to be explored and would be incentive for households to recycle.
6. **Fracking Waste:** no update.

**Adjournment:** Having no other business the Sustainable Energy Commission adjourned their regular meeting at 8:31p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held on Jan. 18, 2018.

Submitted, *Susan Marcinek*, clerk

Att: Clean Energy Communities Announcement email; Regional Conference for Sustainable Development; Sustainable CT meetings; information on Sustainable CT; Town Hall South Improvements to Improve the Triple Bottom Line



Susan Marcinek &lt;susan.marcinek@newtown-ct.gov&gt;

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## Fwd: Clean Energy Communities Announcement

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Quinn &lt;quinnka@aol.com&gt;

Fri, Dec 22, 2017 at 8:43 AM

To: susan.marcinek@newtown-ct.gov

Sue - this is one of the notices that you are looking for. Kathy

-----Original Message-----

From: Natalia Sudyka &lt;natalia.sudyka@eversource.com&gt;

To: Quinn &lt;quinnka@aol.com&gt;

Sent: Thu, Dec 21, 2017 1:16 pm

Subject: RE: Clean Energy Communities Announcement

Hello,

The HES and SBEA programs are still in place.

The automatic transfer of data for Portfolio Manager will continue to be populated each month for electric and gas accounts with Eversource.

Thank you,

Natalia Sudyka | Energy Efficiency Consultant, Energy Efficiency | Eversource | [626 Glenbrook Road, Stamford, CT 06906](#) | Phone: [\(203\) 352-5439](#)

**From:** Quinn [<mailto:quinnka@aol.com>]

**Sent:** Thursday, December 21, 2017 11:38 AM

**To:** Natalia Sudyka <natalia.sudyka@eversource.com>

**Subject:** Re: Clean Energy Communities Announcement

**EVERSOURCE IT NOTICE - EXTERNAL EMAIL SENDER:** Do not click on links or attachments if sender is unknown or if the email is unexpected from someone you know, and never provide a user ID or password. Forward suspicious emails to [SpamFeedback@eversource.com](mailto:SpamFeedback@eversource.com)

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Natalia,

Just looking for confirmation on the status of the HES and SBEA programs. Are they still available or not. Also will Eversource continue with the automatic updating of the electric and gas usage into the Portfolio Manager?

-----Original Message-----

From: Natalia Sudyka &lt;natalia.sudyka@eversource.com&gt;

To: Natalia Sudyka &lt;natalia.sudyka@eversource.com&gt;

Sent: Wed, Dec 20, 2017 12:29 pm

Subject: Clean Energy Communities Announcement

Dear Clean Energy Community Leader,

Due to the recently approved Connecticut State budget that will affect the residential and business energy efficiency programs provided by Eversource, the Clean Energy Communities program is coming to an end. As we take measures to adjust to the latest budget, we are here to continue to serve you, our customers, and answer your questions to the best of our ability. The following program changes are now in effect.

As communicated in November, all Bright Idea Grant applications must now be submitted:



- Grants earned prior to September 30, 2017 must be submitted or postmarked by December 31, 2017.
- Grants earned between October 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017 must be submitted or postmarked by February 9, 2018.
- Submit your documents to [natalia.sudyka@eversource.com](mailto:natalia.sudyka@eversource.com) or by mail to [626 Glenbrook Road, Stamford, CT 06906](#), Attn: Energy Efficiency.
- Please note, previously mailed documents will be forwarded and I will confirm receipt individually.

All existing residential and business campaigns through the Clean Energy Communities program will expire at the end of this year and no further campaigns will be planned. Previously discussed campaigns will not be executed, staffed or otherwise supported. To schedule campaign check donation events, please contact Natalia Sudyka or your community's vendor partners.

Technical assistance for benchmarking through the ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager is no longer offered through the Clean Energy Communities program. Within the next few days, you will receive an e-mail notifying you of a password change for your Portfolio Manager account. Please take the time to review your account and make sure your new password is in working order. Requests for general support may be directly submitted through the EPA's website; [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov).

The Clean Energy Communities Dashboard, located on [EnergizeCT.com](http://EnergizeCT.com), will no longer be supported. The points system for Energy Efficiency Participation and Clean Energy Community Levels will no longer be monitored, calculated, or reported via the site.

Please continue to work with your Eversource Energy Engineer, Energy Efficiency Consultant or Energy Efficiency Account Executive on energy efficiency projects in your community buildings.

If you have any questions about the resolution of the Clean Energy Communities program, please do not hesitate to call me at [203-352-5439](tel:203-352-5439). We wish you much success on your journey to become a clean and energy-efficient community.

Best regards,

Natalia Sudyka  
Associate Energy Efficiency Consultant, Eversource

**Natalia Sudyka**  
Energy Efficiency Consultant, Energy Efficiency  
Eversource Energy  
[626 Glenbrook Road](#)  
[Stamford, CT 06906](#)  
Phone: [203-352-5439](tel:203-352-5439)

Eversource, #1 Energy Efficiency Provider in the Nation  
— According to Ceres, 2016 Benchmarking Utility Clean Energy Report

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February 7, 2018 | 9 am-4:30 pm

Grace Farms Foundation and Live Green Connecticut invite you to be our guest at the first annual Regional Conference for Sustainable Development (RCSD).

During the day-long conference, thought leaders from around the world will discuss wide-ranging strategies for sustainable development, with regional case studies demonstrating how some of those strategies have been implemented locally. Learn how we can come together to make Connecticut a leader in community-driven sustainable development.

#### RSVP

RSVP to [RCSD2018@gracefarmsfoundation.org](mailto:RCSD2018@gracefarmsfoundation.org)

#### Location

Grace Farms  
365 Lukes Wood Road,  
New Canaan, CT

grace farms  
foundation



SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT GOALS

**MICHAEL TOWLE**



Dear Friends of Sustainable CT,

Interested in learning more about Sustainable CT? Our launch for municipal officials, held earlier this week at the annual convention of the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, was just the beginning. Please join us for one our continuing Sustainable CT launch events around the state in January. [Register here](#).

- **January 9, 2018**, 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. - Comstock Community Center (Room 13), Wilton
- **January 9, 2018**, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. - Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies (Bowers Auditorium), New Haven
- **January 16, 2018**, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. - Hartford Public Library (Center for Contemporary Culture), hosted in collaboration with the City of Hartford
- **January 18, 2018**, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. - Torrington City Hall Auditorium
- **January 24, 2018**, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. - Connecticut College (College Center Crozier-Williams 1941 Room), New London
- **January 26, 2018**, 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. - Eastern Connecticut State University (Johnson Community Room), Willimantic

Learn how you, your municipality, businesses, and community organizations can participate in Sustainable CT, Connecticut's new voluntary certification program to recognize thriving and resilient municipalities. We look forward to seeing you and your municipal leaders, and thank you for helping us spread the word!

The Sustainable CT Team  
at the Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University

Read More: [www.sustainablect.org](http://www.sustainablect.org)  
Follow us on Twitter: [@SustainableCT](https://twitter.com/SustainableCT)



*"Connecticut has a valued tradition of home rule. It is therefore up to them to ensure their own futures. Sustainable CT is providing them with the structure, ideas, and assistance to achieve a future where all residents - present and future - and the community as a whole can have the fiscal, transportation, energy, housing, recreational and other key resources to prosper in the 21st Century."*

- David Fink, Consultant, Partnership for Strong Communities

## Welcome!

**Congratulations Middletown, Durham, Killingly & Greenwich**

• Our first registered Sustainable CT communities!

Join us for regional launch events throughout the state in January.

[VIEW RECENT NEWS](#)

## Vision

Sustainable CT communities strive to be thriving, resilient, collaborative, and forward-looking. They build community and local economy. They equitably promote the health and well-being of current and future residents, and they respect the finite capacity of the natural environment.

## Overview

Sustainable CT is a voluntary certification program to recognize thriving and resilient Connecticut municipalities. An independently funded, grassroots municipal effort, Sustainable CT provides a wide-ranging menu of best practices. Municipalities choose Sustainable CT actions, implement them, and earn points toward certification. Sustainable CT also provides opportunities for grant funding to help communities promote economic well-being and enhance equity, all while respecting the finite capacity of the natural environment. The program is designed to support all Connecticut municipalities, regardless of size, geography or resources. Sustainable CT empowers municipalities to create high collective impact for current and future residents.

### Sustainable CT Communities

Strive to be thriving, resilient, collaborative, and forward-looking—

[LEARN MORE](#)

### Why Join?

Access a road map of actions, receive recognition, and connect to funding, peer learning and other resources.

[LEARN MORE](#)

### Support Us

We welcome support from individuals, businesses, colleges and universities, non-profits, and funders.

[LEARN MORE](#)

<http://sustainablect.org/>



## Certification Overview



### 2018 Bronze Certification Requirements

Complete at least **1 action** in each of the 9 categories.  
Successfully complete actions totaling **200 or more points**



### 2018 Silver Certification Requirements

Complete at least **1 action** in each of the 9 categories.  
Successfully complete actions totaling **400 or more points**

## Why Participate?

Each Sustainable CT action has multiple benefits with an [associated icon](#), in addition to contributing to the improvements attributed to the category (e.g., thriving local economies, vibrant and creative cultural ecosystems). Your community will also benefit from:

**Recognition.** Put your municipality on the map for its existing sustainability successes.

**Inspiration.** Inspire other municipalities with your stories and accomplishments.

**Peer Learning.** Be part of a vibrant, locally-driven network to accelerate the exchange of information, materials and best practices.

**Innovation.** Be part of a learning laboratory that drives innovation.

**Funding and Other Resources.** Leverage existing funding, access opportunities for new funding, and connect with our [Sustainable CT Fellowship Program](#) to support local sustainability action.

**Partnerships.** Connect with partners—like other municipalities, regional entities, business and nonprofits—to create synergies and alignment with existing, data-driven efforts.

**Community Building.** Through our uniform platform across municipalities, engage community stakeholders, increasing ownership, legitimacy and support for sustainability action.

**Track Data.** Utilize our framework to track your municipality's progress on specific sustainability indicators.

**The Future.** Current and future residents depend on forward-looking, local action now to ensure vibrant economies and healthy, resilient communities in the future.

## Sustainable CT Categories



- 1. Thriving local economies.** supporting local businesses, increasing local jobs and revenues, and fostering energy-efficient and renewable energy-powered commercial and industrial buildings.
- 2. Well-stewarded land and natural resources** establishing policies and practices that recognize our finite resources and that strive to achieve a balance of many users while preserving and increasing ecosystem health and resilience.
- 3. Vibrant and creative cultural ecosystems.** distinctive, engaged and livable communities that shape people-centered places, provide robust artistic and cultural opportunities, and consider environmental impacts.
- 4. Dynamic and resilient planning.** balancing human development and resource use with a wide range of factors, including livability, economic opportunity, biodiversity and natural systems.
- 5. Clean and diverse transportation systems and choices.** allowing enhanced health, safety and access for all roadway users—including motor vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users—regardless of age, ability, income or ethnicity.
- 6. Efficient physical infrastructure and operations.** including accessible municipal buildings with efficient operations, maintenance, and energy systems.
- 7. Strategic and inclusive public services.** encompassing transparency, inclusivity, effective communication, appropriate events and training, materials management, and public health.
- 8. Healthy housing options.** diverse in both type and affordability, with efficient and renewable energy systems and located in thriving, livable, connected neighborhoods.
- 9. Inclusive and equitable community impacts.** deeply embedding equity considerations into municipal operations, building inclusiveness, community cohesion, and shared decision-making.

# TOWN HALL SOUTH IMPROVEMENTS TO IMPROVE THE TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE

## Planet, People, Profits

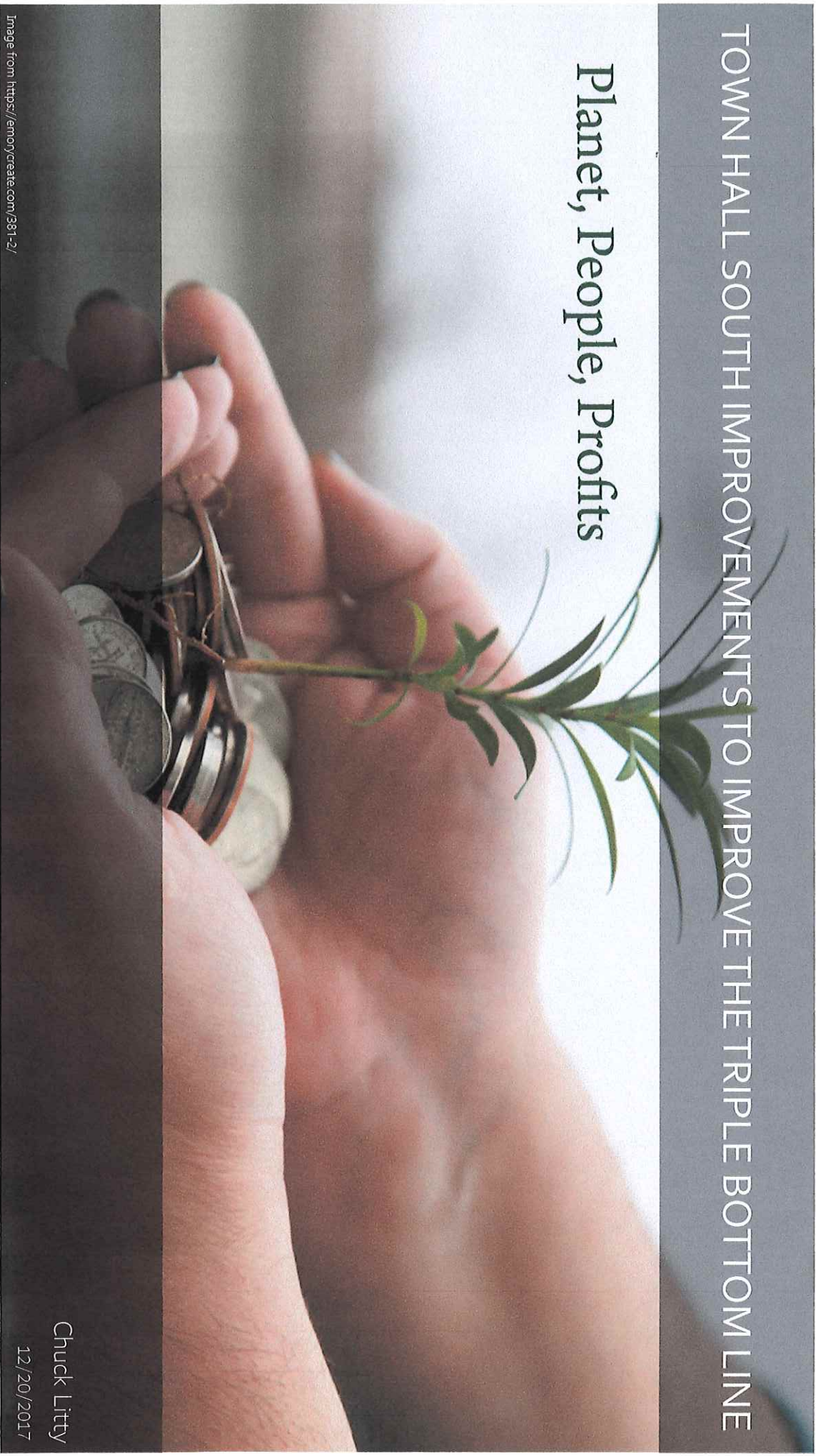


Image from <https://emondycreate.com/381-2/>

Chuck Litty

12/20/2017



# Table of Contents

Topic	Page
Executive Summary	3
Regional and Local Considerations	8
Site, Local Area and Building	10
Energy Improvements	14
Water Improvements	21
Indoor Environmental Quality & Waste	22
Conclusions	23
Appendix	27

## Why Town Hall South – The Police Department Will Move to a New Facility



Source: Newtown Police Department Facility Needs and Validation," [http://www.newtown-ct.gov/sites/newtownct/files/uploads/newtown\\_police\\_department\\_facility\\_needs\\_12-09-16.pdf](http://www.newtown-ct.gov/sites/newtownct/files/uploads/newtown_police_department_facility_needs_12-09-16.pdf)

**Completion of new police facility is expected in  
about 2 years**

The building could undergo some renovations to be repurposed for new tenants or readied for sale

The Newtown Police Department Facility Needs Assessment & Validation document highlighted issues with the present building indicating the building may need some repairs

**It is unknown if what issues exist but regardless, some  
work may be undertaken for new tenants or sale**

**Selling or repurposing the building may present a good opportunity to green**



# Town Hall South could serve as an excellent proof of concept project to increase market value, gain experience and showcase what can be done

## What Was Done

Conducted a greening case study of Town Hall South:

- Existing building
- Site
- Local climate
- Microclimate

The study focused on:

- Energy reduction
- Stormwater management
- Water conservation
- Reducing waste
- Improving indoor environmental quality

## What Was Found

- ✓ 17 lower cost improvements ... all have short estimated payback periods based on reduced energy use
- ✓ Improvements could benefit health and wellbeing of town employees ... could improve retention, productive and possibly lowered health care costs
- ✓ Improvements may qualify the building for LEED certification
- ✓ Improvements would cause little disruption and little involvement of town employees

The greenest approach is the improve the existing building