

THE FOLLOWING MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY
THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board of Selectmen held a regular meeting Monday, April 17, 2023. The meeting was held in the Council Chambers at the Newtown Municipal Center. First Selectman Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and opened the meeting with salute to the flag.

PRESENT: First Selectman Daniel C. Rosenthal, Selectman Maureen Crick Owen and Selectman Ed Schierloh.

ALSO PRESENT: Sustainable Energy Chairman Kathy Quinn, Director of Public Works Fred Hurley and one member of the public.

VOTER COMMENTS: none.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES: Selectman Crick Owen moved to accept the regular meeting minutes of April 3, 2023. Selectman Schierloh seconded. All in favor.

COMMUNICATIONS: none.

FINANCE DIRECTORS REPORT: none.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action:

1. **Sustainable Energy Commission Presentation:** Kathy Quinn and Fred Hurley shared the PowerPoint presentation detailing the work of the Sustainable Energy Commission (att.). Since the last presentation in 2021, there are well over 100 homes that now have solar. Mr. Hurley explained the savings with solar panels on town buildings as well as through VNM (Virtual Net Metering). Overall, in Town on municipal programs there is \$400,000 savings on VNM and \$350,000 in savings with the solar panels. This is \$750,000/year, which equates to \$15million over the twenty year contracts. Community solar programs puts an emphasis on affordable housing; a solar farm allows for those who aren't candidates for roof top solar to benefit as well. Newtown is one of the first towns to participate in the PowerSmart battery storage program. It gives a battery backup for the house; an additional bonus is, because it is a smart system tied to the grid, days with peaks will draw from the battery to help flatten grid pressure, avoiding brown outs. EV charging stations will be secured through a grant. People are now looking at alternative ways to heat and cool. Air source heat pumps are under consideration by Nunnawauk Meadows. The Board of Education recognized savings during budget time largely due to these programs.
2. **CT State Library Historic Documents Preservation Program grant acceptance:** Selectman Crick Owen moved to accept the Historic Documents Preservation Program grant in the amount of \$8,000 and authorized the First Selectman to sign any and all documents on behalf of the Town of Newtown. Selectman Schierloh seconded. All in favor.
3. **Appointments/Reappointments/Vacancies/Openings:** none.
4. **Driveway Bond Release/Extension:** none.
5. **Tax Refunds:** Selectman Crick Owen moved Tax Refund #18 2022/23 in the amount of \$3,106.13. Selectman Schierloh seconded. All in favor.

Rec'd. for Record 4-18 2023
Town Clerk of Newtown 11:05am
Debbie Aurelia Halstead

Board of Selectmen
April 17, 2023

VOTER COMMENTS: none.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Tuesday, April 25th, is the referendum. All registered voters can vote at the Newtown Middle School between the hours of 6am-8pm. Earth Day is Saturday, April 22nd.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Selectman Crick Owen moved to enter into executive session for discussion on pending litigation relative to a personnel matter. Selectman Schierloh seconded. All in favor. Executive session was entered into at 8:02p.m and returned to regular session at 8:20p.m. with the following motion:

Selectman Crick Owen moved to approve the proposed agreement presented during Executive Session relative to personnel matters. Selectman Schierloh seconded. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business the regular Board of Selectmen meeting was adjourned at 8:21p.m.

Attachments: Sustainable Energy Presentation to BOS, 4/17/23; F. Hurley email, 3/28/23

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Marcinek

Town Clerk of Newtown
Susan Marcinek



Town of
Newtown
Connecticut

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

Presentation to Board of Selectmen

April 17, 2023

AGENDA

- Municipal energy plan
- Progress since last presentation to BOS,
Nov 2021

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



84% of all electricity for Newtown municipal buildings comes from solar

Energy upgrades to schools and municipal buildings will result in significant savings

Four new EV double-headed charging stations will be added in 2023

Savings realized via rebates, incentives, energy generation (solar) & reduced consumption

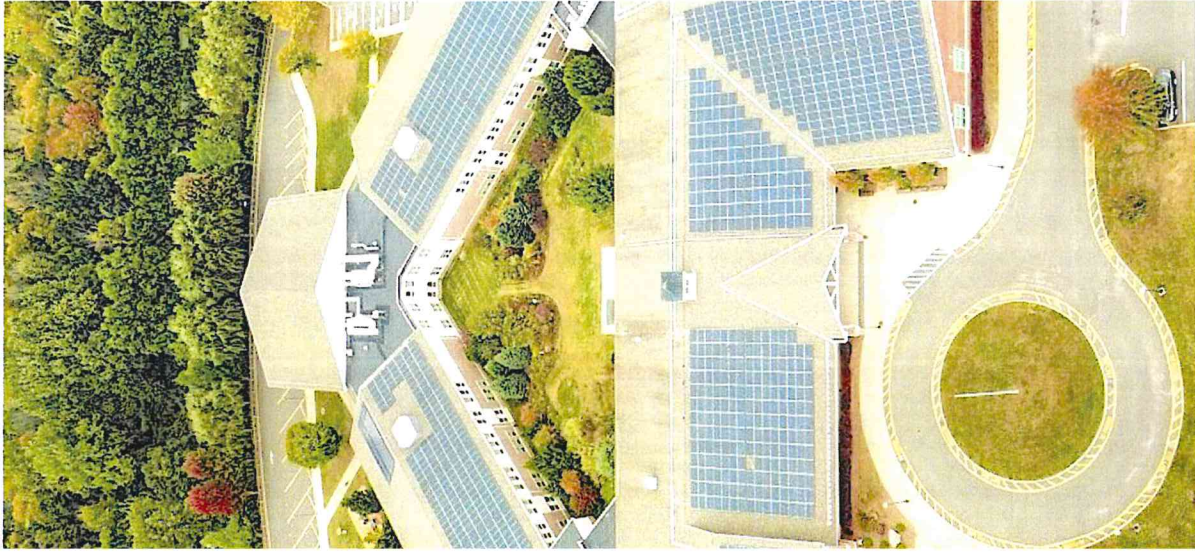
Battery Storage Campaign Launch in May 2023

MUNICIPAL ENERGY PLAN

- Increase our municipal renewable electricity usage from current 84% to 95% by 2024
- Strive for 100% carbon-free electricity by 2040 (CT State Goal)
- The path to 100% renewable comprises two complementary actions
 - Decrease in overall energy consumption
 - Shift to clean, renewable energy

NEWTOWN SCHOOLS UPDATE

- LED Lighting Upgrade – all lighting has been upgraded in interior and exterior of all schools with exception of Reed café/auditorium
- HVAC –New boiler at Reed; 5 RTUs at NHS; Hawley in progress
- Middle School attic insulation \$2k savings annually



SOLAR

Total of 585 arrays with total capacity of 9 MW within Town limits

- 1.4MW - 27 Commercial/industrial units
- 2.4 MW Municipal
- 5.3 MW Residential – 558 units
- An additional 4 MW solar virtual net metering contracts at 2 sites in CT

SOLAR IMPACT AT REED SCHOOL

In 2022 total usage was 1,614,085 KWH – 100% was supplied by solar;

- 677,245 KWH (41.96%) supplied by roof-top solar under PPA
net savings \$88,719

- 936,840 KWH (58.04%) supplied by indirect VNM solar
net savings \$32,711

Total Savings \$121,430 (39.6% reduction in electrical costs)

SOLAR – BUY ALL PROGRAM PLAN

SITE	SIZE (KW)	OUTPUT/YR (KWH)	LAUNCH DATE
Municipal Center	188.6	243,500	TBD
Police Dept Canopy (includes 4 EV charging ports)	119.3	159,000	TBD
Wastewater Treatment Plant	452.0	608,500	TBD
Head O'Meadow	465.7	600,600	TBD

Additional Sites Available - Batchelder (2MW potential), Hawley and Middle Gate, NHS Auditorium



- Community-based campaign to encourage residents to adopt solar energy and battery storage systems.
- Funded by Dept of Energy; no cost to Newtown
- Managed by *SmartPower* a non-profit mktg org dedicated to promoting renewable energy solutions
- Education and outreach campaign with kick-off event May 9th
- SEC will coordinate events

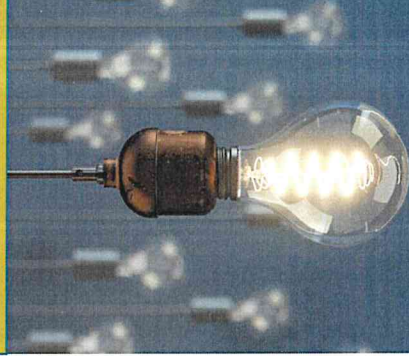


Sat. April 22nd

REDUCE YOUR ENERGY COSTS

RESIDENTIAL &
COMMERCIAL

**Go Green
Newtown**
Sustainable Energy Commission



LOOKING FOR:

- ENERGY EFFICIENT LIGHTING & WINDOWS
- SMART THERMOSTATS
- WEATHERIZATION
- SOLAR INSTALLATIONS
- EV CHARGERS
- HEAT PUMPS
- ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS

AVAILABLE RESOURCES &
FINANCING OPTIONS
ENERGYSTAR.GOV
ENERGIZECT.COM
CTGREENBANK.COM

www.gogreennewtown.com
facebook.com/newtownSEC



FOR A CLEANER, HEALTHIER AND MORE COMFORTABLE
ENVIRONMENT

TRANSPORTATION

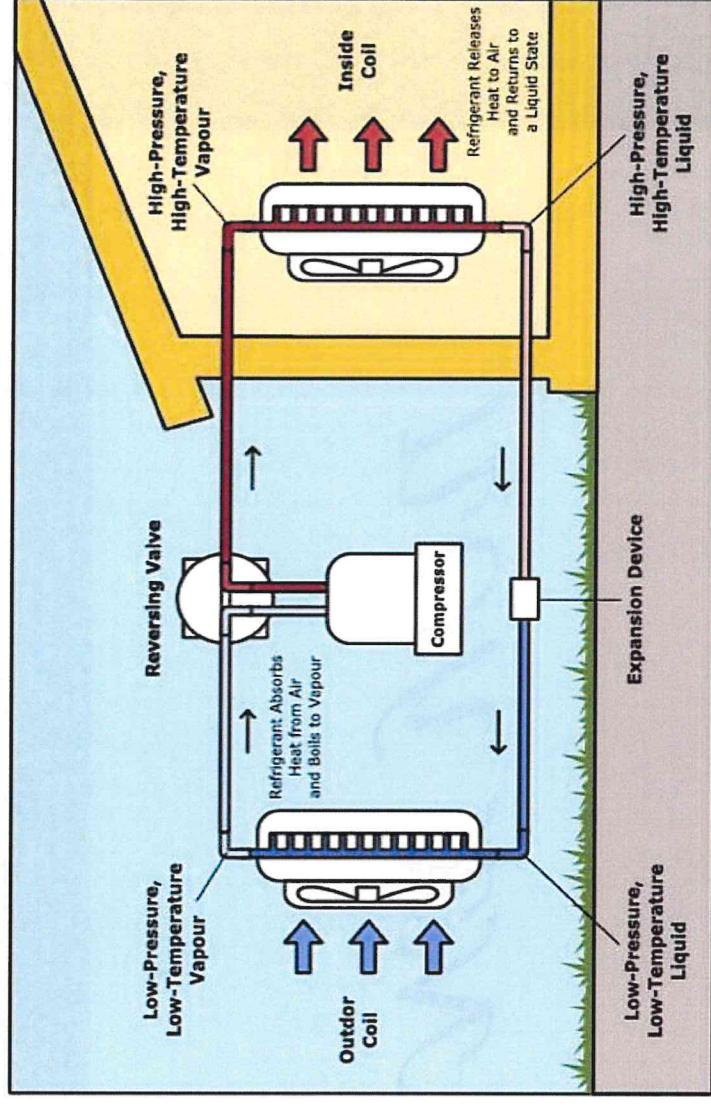
- Four new charging stations (2 ports each) to be installed at Edmond Town Hall, Library or Community/Senior Center Funding
- Leveraged through state and federal programs (ARA) and \$10k grant from Clean Energy Communities
- Four fast charge EV installations in Sandy Hook thru Electrify America (worth \$350,000. Agreement could not be reached between SHOP and EA but opportunity may exist at Walsh's corner at Exit 11



ENERGY TRACKING & MANAGEMENT

- Peak demand influences energy costs and size of infrastructure. Renewable energy can reduce peak demand
- Through participation in demand management programs we can respond to requests to reduce energy demand
- Working with UConn to finalize data integration for Portfolio Manager program to track energy usage

Air Source Heat Pumps



Under consideration by Nunnawauk
Meadows Mgmt following
consultation with SEC

THANK YOU



Fred Hurley <fred.hurley@newtown-ct.gov>

Reed School Solar System

Tue, Mar 28, 2023 at 10:58 AM

Hello,

You made an inquiry to the Town regarding the direct rooftop solar system installed at Reed Intermediate School and what the results of that project has been. The system was installed by Direct Energy several years ago and has a DC rating of approximately 618 KW. This translates after processing by inverters into approximately a 525 KW AC system.

Reed School utilized 1,614,085 KWH of electricity last year. Of that total the roof top solar system provided 677,245 KWH or 41.96% of the total. This is a "power purchase agreement" (PPA) where a third party owns and operates the system for the Town, without the Town having to pay for the system, only the energy produced. The solar system avoided \$128,676 in direct charges from Eversource and after paying the system owner/operator \$.059 per KWH or \$39,957 netted approximately \$88,719 in savings.

In addition to the direct solar program, the school is also on an indirect program of "virtual net metering" (VNM) which provides a savings for the KWH not avoided by the direct solar system. This program also uses a PPA structure. The VNM system costs \$.089 per KWH or \$83,379 for 936,840 KWH. The VNM credits from Eversource totaled \$116,090 for a net savings of \$32,711.

The two solar programs together saved the Town a total of \$121,430 for the past year. This was done without using any Town funding for investment other than paying for the electricity consumed at a substantially lower rate than that available from the utility. The solar programs impacted 100% of the schools electrical consumption and reduced the "cash" electrical costs to the Town by 39.6% in "real" savings.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to follow up.

Best regards,
Fred Hurley
Director of Public Works