

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION
Regular Meeting – via teleconference
Thursday, February 18, 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, George Brown

Absent: Jackie Meriano, Allen Adriani, David Stout

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 – E. Wiess moved to accept. M. Sievel seconded with corrections. He corrected that he erroneously said that 5 Glen Road is town property but in fact the adjacent to that space that is public properly. All in favor.

VNM solar project – New project waiting state approval– F. Hurley reported that they did go through with the filing with PURA to get the unused credits. VNM credits have been building so this would change the allocations.

Electric Vehicles charging stations – M. Sievel spoke with A. Gomez the from Electrify America. He would like to do a site visit. He has the maps and renderings (Attachment A) so he has a good idea of the area. F. Hurley reported that the package for Westcog will go forward. The state had put this proposal out, and said the vehicles didn't meet the buy America. Waivers have been put in place through senatorial offices which includes the Towns request for 3 GM Chevy Bolts which will replace inspectors' vehicles. We can prove there is usage at that location and there is no reason to suspect there would not be more usage.

School Updates:

Head O'Meadow – B. Gerbert reported that the work should start in early march. He did get the formal offer from Eversource with a slightly larger incentive. The next step is order the fixtures and get things under way.

Hawley – Still progressing. The architect and engineer have been spending a lot of time in the building. There is a full slate of drawings with a lot of duct and pipe runs. They are progressing nicely and hopes they will keep up the pace up and get the construction documents soon.

Reed – Greenleaf has the lighting end done. Hopefully everything will be completed by the end of the month.

Other – Still going through with energy audit. They still have to complete the Middle and High Schools.

Update on Community/Senior Center co-generation meeting - The capacity credits for the Community Center, new Police Department and Hook & Ladder are being processed between C-Power and Davis Hill (developer) for the June auction of credits. There will be a working group to indicate issues at all Town buildings that will include operational and capital expenditures which includes the Community Center.

Municipal Center IR camera results – F. Hurley reported that there has been an issue in the Tax office and the IR camera images are helping to solve the problem.

Energy Star Portfolio Manager – K. Quinn has gotten some information for oil and continues to work on it.

Demand Reduction program, C Power, Generators – F. Hurley reported that they have started to put together a list of generators. The person to compile the list for the Town is out for the next two weeks so when he returns, they will get it done.

Facebook presence – J. Meriano was not present but provided her report: “We were sent over some digital assets from Call2Recycle for National Battery Day (today). The organization put together a full scale of marketing content that can be utilized on several social media platforms. Thanks Arlene for sending the information over to me, it is now live on our page. If anyone else gets emails or notifications of any other events, programs, etc like this, especially ones that have social media content and creative assets, I'm happy to post it on our page.”

Municipal Energy Plan – no update

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE ADDRESSED

Changes to recycling/composting efforts – F. Hurley, they are still working on a glass plan for the region. The First Selectman just sent a letter in support of an act concerning the extended producer responsibility for tires, smoke detectors and certain gas cylinders.

Expanding the bottle bill to include wine and other bottles will have an immediate impact on MSW and recycling. The town is on record for supporting it and well as HRRA. The Town will be doing a substantial survey of its residents regarding recycling and garbage. There is a lot of data needed before any changes to the current program can be evaluated.

Next meeting is March 18, 2021

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:51pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Arlene Miles, Clerk