SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION
Regular Meeting
Public Works Department, 4 Turkey Hill Road, Newtown
Thursday, April 21, 2022
Called to order at 7:05PM

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

Present: Kathy Quinn, Allen Adriani, Carol Walsh, Derek Pisani, George Brown
Absent: Mike Oristaglio, David Stout, Dana Myjak, Robert Bohn
Also Present: Director of Public Works Fred Hurley

Communications – There will be an Earth Day event is Saturday April 23rd at the Middle School from 10am to 4pm. Southbury is also doing an Earth Day event the same day from 10am to 2pm at the Town Hall Green in Southbury.

Public Comments - None

Acceptance of Minutes – C. Walsh moved to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2022 meeting. D. Pisani seconded, all in favor.

BUSINESS

10K Grant decision – K. Quinn put this on the agenda to keep it in the forefront of everyones minds as to a good use for the funds.

Sub-Committees: A. Adriani and K. Quinn are on the Energy Star Portfolio subcommittee. C. Walsh, R. Bohn, G. Brown and M. Oristaglio are on Storage. M. Oristaglio and D. Pisani are on EV Charging Stations.

EV Charging Stations/Electrify America – F. Hurley has informed Electrify America that because of continued complications and delays the Town will discontinue this project. The funds from the state grant for development of the overall property were at risk. C. Walsh and D. Pisani were present at the Juice Bar presentation. It seems to be a good value to the dollar and open architecture on software. They are in business here in CT

Outreach to promote energy improvement measures to the Commercial Sector and review of Design Guidelines for Public Building and Site Committee – C. Walsh put together a flier which can be put out for Earth Day and at the Building Department (Attached).
VNM solar project – New project waiting state approval – They are still waiting on final approval. We are guaranteed the megawatt as soon as Eversource and the state does their selection.

Solar Canopy at Police Department – F. Hurley reported that they have a proposal but we have to go out to RFP to meet the purchasing regulations of the town.

Other Solar Opportunities – Bachelder: Once the remediation plan is signed off and approved by DEEP it goes off to funding and then a community solar project can be planned.

School Updates: B. Gerbert was unable to attend but sent the following update: Middle Gate School they will be replacing the parking lot lights with LED, this will likely happen next month. At the Middle School, Eversource replaced the pole lights in the parking lot with LED.

Town Building Strategic Plan Committee Overview – F. Hurley reported it is moving along. They delayed discussions with a software vendor until May. They are trying to determine if the work can be done in house or need an outside vendor to tie repair and maintenance work orders to specific buildings.

Municipal Energy Plan – No update

Social Media – No Update

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE ADDRESSED
Changes to recycling/composting efforts – F. Hurley reported that they are proceeding with how to reorganize the Transfer Station so a large capacity of people can get through for recycling. There are constraints on the site that they are struggling with. They are looking for a preliminary plan end of May beginning of June.

Next meeting is May 19, 2022

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Arlene Miles, Clerk
REDUCE YOUR ENERGY COSTS

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

GO Green Newtown
Sustainable Energy Commission

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• SMART THERMOSTATS
• WEATHERIZATION
• SOLAR INSTALLATIONS
• EV CHARGERS
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