

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

Sustainable Energy Commission held a regular meeting Thursday, September 19, 2019 in shared meeting room 3 of the Municipal Center located at 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT 06470.

Chairman Kathy Quinn called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

Present: Kathy Quinn, Allen Adriani, Vanessa Villamil, Tom Snayd, Mark Sievel, Erik Weiss, George Brown, Zach Marchetti

Absent: David Stout

Also Present: Director of Public Works Fred Hurley, Matt Cavataro, Julian Castignoli

Communications – There is an Energy Fair and Green Expo at the Southbury Green Saturday from 10am to 2pm. The Sustainable Energy Commission will be presenting to the Board of Selectman on 10/21/19 showing them what they have accomplished and what their future goals are.

Public Comments – None

Minutes – A. Adriani moved to approve the minutes of the 8/15/19 meeting. M. Sievel seconded, motion unanimously approved

BUSINESS

Appointment of a new member – T. Snayd moved to appoint Zach Marchetti to the Sustainable Energy Commission. V. Villamil seconded, motion unanimously approved.

ZREC for Community Center, new Police Station and Hook & Ladder Fire House – The Hook and Ladder RFP for a 60 kw system is 80% complete. The next rep will be for 100 kw PV system on the Community Center.

VNM solar project – Voluntown 2MW (AC) – Discussed below.

VNM new two 2 MW (AC) systems – The first is under construction and should be operational by Thanksgiving. They used different school buildings to cover usage. The second, tied to the High School is waiting on the contract from Eversource. In the meantime, Alco, the developer will move forward with the PPA. It is hoped to have the second project on line by the end of the year or during the winter.

Electric Vehicles-Charging Stations – F. Hurley explained that there should be an RFP from UI and Eversource sometime in the spring. They will make it possible to get charging stations everywhere and they will fund the infrastructure cost for installation.

Energy Savings program:

New Construction Projects

Community Center/Senior Center – F. Hurley explained that the first utilities bills have come in post construction. For the electric, demand was 1/3 and usage was 2/3. The natural gas was over \$5,000. Solar thermal is something that can be looked at as well. VNM through the Batchelder project might be possible by using the Community Center, Library and Edmond Town Hall as users. A. Adriani asked if the dehumidification units were recovering the heat?

Police Department – No update

General plans for schools – Robert Gerbert is the Director of Facilities for the Board of Education. He is a PE, worked for the city of Stamford and Purdue Pharma. F. Hurley will be meeting with him and the Superintendent next week and will extend the invitation for him to come to a meeting.

A Andriani has been working with Ben Toby regarding Head of Meadow School. He needs to contact with R. Gerbert so they continue his walk through regarding the lighting and put together a quote.

A Andriani also reported that Sandy Hook School the utility and gas bills have come down. In March from the year before it is down 15%, June is down 50% from last year. Natural gas has been reducing 10 to 20% month after month.

Sustainable CT – Program recommendation sent to First Selectman – No update

Develop/update: Municipal Energy Plan, Web Site, Facebook page and Power Point Presentation, Incorporate demand reduction and Energy Star Portfolio – The Simsbury energy plan is the most user friendly plan they reviewed. Their plan is looking at the entire town, not just town buildings and schools and set long term goals and plans for how they are going to get there. They will likely follow the same format of the Simsbury plan for Newtown.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE ADDRESSED

Organic Recycling/ School program – F. Hurley will discuss this at this meeting with the Superintendent and Director of Facilities. It is understood that the Schools are committed.

General Recycling –

Outline Sustainable Newtown Program – No update

Batchelder site for future solar/installation/community solar site – No update

Next meeting is October 17, 2019.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Arlene Miles, Clerk