

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

The Sustainable Energy Commission held a regular meeting Thursday, July 20, 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 7:03p.m.

Present: Chairman Kathy Quinn, Graham Clifford, Jeff Jorgenson, Mark Sievel, Tom Snayd, Barbara Toomey

Absent: Allen Adriani, George Brown, Dave Stout

Also Present: Fred Hurley

Communications: CT Green Bank is holding an event July 27 and will announce the winner of the American Government Award for 2017. Ms. Quinn will send to any members interested in attending.

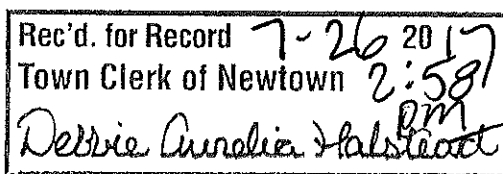
Public Comments: none.

Acceptance of Minutes: Ms. Toomey moved to accept the minutes of the special meeting of June 13, 2017. Mr. Sievel seconded. All in favor. Mr. Sievel moved to accept the minute of June 15, 2017 with a correction to item (g) Grant Funds, saying Charge (not Smart) Point has smart technology. Mr. Jorgensen seconded. All in favor.

Business

Discussion and possible action:

- a. **Status of Landfill Solar Project:** Still waiting for Eversource to do specific work on the interconnection; they are working on primaries on Rte. 25.
- b. **Reed School solar project:** This passed the preliminary witness testing with no complications. The system should go live by month end.
- c. **New Project – Sandy Hook School Solar:** Sound Solar was chosen at 190KWAC (att.) The proposals were very competitive. A ZREC has been awarded and will be locked in at \$70 a ZREC.
- d. **Solomon Solar project:** Mr. Hurley hopes for better information in a week or two. Our State Senator is involved in an energy committee with the Governor. Virtual net metering, net metering, and fuel cells are part of the plan. Microgrid will be pushed to tie in regional centers. Mr. Hurley said there would be enough critical mass for a microgrid if the police department is located at Fairfield Hills, as well as a regional dispatch center and the community center. Having storage will reduce costs by cutting into demand charges. The money the state had listed in queues for virtual net metering will become available and there is money in the microgrid. Mr. Hurley will get in touch with Fairfield, because they have done a microgrid.
- e. **MLS Group – Nunnawauk Meadows – solar:** no update.



- f. **Batchelder site – potential for solar:** The Brownfields bill went through. Batchelder is eligible in the queue for virtual net metering.
- g. **Grant Funds**
 - EV charging station:** The first station is going in and there will be additional conduit for additional stations side by side. Mr. Hurley is planning the purchase of an electric car, using budget money and a possible cost share with the Health Department. The town will not get consumer discounts but may qualify for a fleet discount. The state may do some incentives for municipalities.
 - New Bright Ideas10K Grant:** A decision needs to be made on spending this grant money.
- h. **Energy Savings program update:**
 - Public Works** – A sign off for the wastewater treatment plant was received.
 - Library** – no update.
 - Head O' Meadow** – no report specific to Head O' Meadow.

Mr. Hurley will go through an RFP process for a fuel cell for the high school.

Mr. Hurley spoke about the State Packaging Task Force, looking for changes in legislation in terms of handling of packaging, to get an extended product responsibility. The idea is that the packaging companies will incorporate the disposal of the packaging in the price.

New Construction Projects:

Community Center: Mr. Hurley reported that DTC and Caldwell & Walsh are looking at alternate designs. In terms of waste recovery, putting in variable refrigerant systems. They may be able to generate enough excess heat from the pool that they won't have to put a boiler in. If they had waste heat from a fuel cell they could use that for the pool and use a boiler. Mr. Hurley stated there is discussion relative to decision making based on a future microgrid. These decisions will be made in the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Hurley believes there will be design, ready to go out to bid, within the next twelve months, for the new police department.

General plan to use Eversource programs for remaining buildings: There is work being done on the Middle School energy project including high efficiency boilers and lighting converted to LED. Mr. Hurley said that Queen Street needs to be cut to update the gas line. Mr. Faiella's communication said the next schools are the high school and the completion of Hawley, followed by Reed; no mention of Head O' Meadow. Ms. Quinn would like feedback. Mr. Hurley discussed the Capital Improvement Plan relative to school projects.

- i. **Microgrid feasibility study:** Mr. Hurley said Celtic reported on microgrid. The next steps could include feasibility assessment of microgrid options, primarily potential adaptation of 600KW of PV to be installed at Reed to operate in a microgrid configuration. All current and future town projects should be designed to microgrid / energy storage ready.
- j. **Street Lighting:** no update to report.
- k. **Power Energy Management System (Panoramic/Direct Energy):** no update.

- l. High School Sustainability Program – funding possibilities:** following up on hiring process.
- m. Dashboard for website (API keys):** Mr. Clifford added a dollar amount based on the municipal rate. There is an icon; Ms. Quinn will talk to the town to see if something can be done on the website to draw more attention to this.
- n. Request re-appropriation of remaining budget funds to next fiscal year:** A request has been put in to the Finance Director.

Additional Items for discussion:

- 1. Sustainable CT:** no update.
- 2. Newtown Forward:** there was a training with the Citizens Climate Lobby, a national organization that is trying to get a carbon fee and dividend law enacted on a federal level; local groups are working to get state government to sign on. Senator Murphy and Congresswoman Esty are working on a national green bank based on CT.
- 3. Municipal Energy Plan:** no update.
- 4. Energy Star Portfolio Manager:** there are monthly automatic updates on electricity and gas. The last report was from June 2016, an updated report will show through June 2017. Oil and propane will need to be added manually. There was further discussion on the report as well as the traffic light on Wasserman Way.
- 5. Web Site:** The commission has been updated on the website.
- 6. Organic Recycling:** The program continues to grow; the town is trying to get restaurants involved.
- 7. Fracking Waste:** New Milford passed a ban on fracking waste. Ms. Quinn forwarded the article to the Legislative Chair for consideration.

Adjournment: Having no other business, Mr. Snayd moved that the Sustainable Energy Commission adjourn their regular meeting at 8:10p.m. Mr. Sievel seconded. All in favor.

The next regular meeting will be held on September 12, 2017.

Attachments: Developer Recommendation Sandy Hook Solar Electric Project, 7/13/17

Submitted, Susan Marcinek, clerk



TOWN OF NEWTOWN
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

To: Purchasing Authority
From: Frederick Hurley, Public Works Director
Date: 7/13/17

Subject: Developer Recommendation Sandy Hook Solar Electric Project.

On June 14, 2017, the Town of Newtown issued a publicly advertised Request For Proposals to qualified companies and developers to provide, install and maintain a nominally 210 KWAC solar photo voltaic electric system at the Sandy Hook Elementary School, 12 Dickenson Drive. The Request For Proposals were due and seven were received and accepted on July 6, 2017. The review of and results from those proposals are as follows.

We looked at total annual production coupled with the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) price. We had to ensure that while one system might have a higher PPA price that its greater overall production might not provide the greater overall savings to the Town. We found no such results in the proposals. Accordingly, we are able to rank the proposals by PPA price and our recommendation is the lowest offered fixed price. Finally, all these proposals worked with the assumption that the Town would receive a \$70 per ZREC award from Eversource. This award was confirmed by Eversource on 7/13/17.

Company	Nominal System Size	PPA Price Per KWH
Altus Power, Greenwich, CT	190 KWAC	\$.119
Panatec Solar, Manalapan, NJ	210 KWAC	\$.110
Solomon Energy, Fairfield, CT	200.4 KWAC	\$.095
SHR Energy, Weston, CT	210 KWAC	\$.09
Direct Energy, Middletown, CT	150 KWAC	\$.089
All Electric, West Haven, CT	200.4 KWAC	\$.082
Sound Solar, Old Greenwich, CT	190 KWAC	\$.078

After a full and complete review we recommend the lowest offered PPA price with the greatest overall savings proposed by Sound Solar Systems, One Park Avenue, Old Greenwich, CT 06870.

Submitted by:

Frederick W. Hurley, Jr.
Public Works Director