

SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

Regular Meeting – via teleconference

Thursday, August 20, 2020

Called to order at 7:00pm

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

Present via teleconference: Kathy Quinn, Allen Adriani, Zach Marchetti, Erik Weiss, Mark Sievel, George Brown(7:12)

Absent: David Stout

Also Present via teleconference: Director of Public Works Fred Hurley, BOE Director of Facilities Robert Gerbert

Communications – Tom Snayd has official resigned. Now they have two open positions.

Public Comments – None

Acceptance of Minutes – A. Adriani moved to approve the minutes of the 7/16/20 meeting with corrections. Under update on schools that reads “There is a chiller on the roof that isn’t working efficiently. If they upgrade it, it could save 28.5% energy” should be “if they replace all of the rooftop units it could be as much as 28.5% more efficient use of energy pre COVID for the High School”. E. Weiss seconded, all in favor.

BUSINESS

C-Power Proposal – No update

Update on schools regarding energy saving measures, indoor air quality issues, recycling – A. Adriani and K. Quinn toured the Middle School with B. Gerbert. There is little ventilation in the building. There are only 4 area’s that have AC One roof top is going to be replaced and the other 3 are 33 years old. In terms of energy savings, they could add roof insulation. The next tour will be Reed School. B. Gerbert reported that they are getting ready for the opening of school. They have received approval from the Selectman for the design firm for Hawley School. They are committed to doing two air quality studies, one mid to late October and one mid to late November. The environmental person will be at the school next week and the architectural team has plans of the building and are officially off and running. They think they can have a design package by March 1, 2021.

ZREC for Community Center, Hook and Ladder and new Police Station – No Update.

VNM Solar project – New project waiting state approval – We still have one mega watt pending state approval. Once it opens up we will be approved. The Syndey system impacts five schools is already being built and will be operational by the end of the year. All the schools will be operational except for Middlegate which is in the project waiting state VNM credit approval. We estimated that we needed 7 ½ mega watts of generation for 100% of our electrical needs. When all our systems are operational we will be at 95%-98% of our public electricity usage will be solar. As more AC and ventilation is added there will be opportunities to add solar to keep pace as roofs are replaced. There is always the idea of doing canopies in the parking areas. At the new PD, solar on car canopies for recharging electric cars is being considered.

Batchelder site – future project waiting for site cleanup – It is on hold until they know where the remediation stands.

Electric Vehicles-Charging Stations – No update

Update on Community Center/Senior Center co-generation meeting update – No Update.

New Police Station – Everything is running on schedule

Develop/update: Municipal Energy Plan, Web Site, Facebook page and Power Point Presentation. Incorporate demand reduction and Energy Star Portfolio Manager – The website and energy plan are being worked on.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO BE ADDRESSED

Organic Recycling/ School program –The food scrap recycling program that was put in place at Sandy Hook School will be put on hold do to COVID.

HRRA grant for composting program – They are going to set up a program where someone comes and manages the pile and compost on site so offset the hauling costs.

General Recycling – No update

Information sheet for Building and Land Use Departments for Energy Savings Ideas – No update

Next meeting is September 17, 2020.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:41pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Arlene Miles, Clerk