

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

The Sustainable Energy Commission held a regular meeting Thursday, May 19, 2016 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 7:05 pm.

**Present:** Chairman Kathy Quinn, Mark Sievel, Karen Pierce, Barbara Toomey

**Also Present:** Fred Hurley, Jeff Jorgenson

**Absent:** Joseph Borst, George Brown, Steve Gogliettino, Dave Stout

**Communications:** Ms. Quinn emailed a list of events to the commission.

**Public Comments:** none.

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Mr. Sievel made a motion to accept the minutes of the March 17, 2016 meeting minutes. Ms. Toomey seconded. The motion unanimously passed.

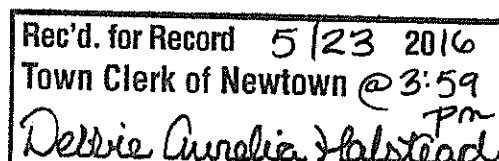
**Ms. Toomey made a motion to accept the minutes of the April 21, 2016 meeting. Mr. Sievel seconded correcting the spelling of *Hurley* and *Llodra*. The motion unanimously passed.**

**Introduction of new member:** Mr. Jorgenson gave the commission a brief overview of his qualifications. **Ms. Quinn made a motion to appoint Mr. Jorgenson to the commission to fill an open position. Ms. Pierce seconded. The motion unanimously passed.**

**Business:**

- a. **Status of Landfill Solar Projects:** The bill was received by the Legislature for virtual net metering. The project has to be up and running by early fall. Solar City is responsible for developing, contracting, installing and maintaining the system; the town pays for the electricity at a reduced cost for 25 years. The facilities that will use the net metering are the transfer station, public works garage, the police department, the municipal center, the multipurpose center, the waste water treatment plant and the Emergency Operation Center (EOC).
- b. **Reed School solar potential:** An RFP went to thirteen companies. Reed School is eligible for ZREC because the total doesn't exceed 1,000 KW. Included in the RFP is a requirement for the developer to remove and reinstall the system so the Board of Education can re-roof the building. This will be at an added expense. The developer will also be responsible for snow removal. The bids for this project will be open on June 7; Mr. Hurley suggested the commission hold a special meeting on June 8 to discuss the bid results. Upon approval the bulk of construction will be in 2017.
- c. **Energy Savings program update**  
**Municipal Center:** A quote was received from Energy Solutions; Celtic reviewed and found the lighting was done but not through the small business energy advantage program. Celtic oversees projects and will send a letter to the town before any action is taken on the proposal.

**Waste Water Treatment Plant:** The commission is waiting on quotes from Nxegen.



**Middle Gate School:** We can qualify for a comprehensive grant.

**Edmond Town Hall:** JK Energy was used for lighting but the Edmond Town Hall is doing it piece meal, on their own. They were encouraged to use the SBEA program to save money.

- d. **Microgrid feasibility study:** A response was received from Efficiency Lighting. Celtic is sending them an RFP. There are three possibilities for microgrids in town: the Hawley project, the businesses across the street from the Newtown Middle School and a microgrid in the Fairfield Hills area.
- e. **Street Lighting:** An RFP is being prepared. There are three firms that CCM have pre-vetted. All three will be invited, and also CL&P to propose a conversion program.

**Additional Items for discussion:**

- 1. **EV Charging stations:** The grant commitment was needed by June 30; the town couldn't commit until July 1. Town fleet vehicles and location of charging stations will be the starting point. Mr. Jorgenson said there is a whole new range of technology for fleet management.
- 2. **Municipal Energy Plan:** No update.
- 3. **Portfolio Manager:** No update.
- 4. **Budget and Grant Spending:** No update.
- 5. **Web Site:** Ms. Quinn would like to have photos on the front page of the landfill project as it progresses.
- 6. **Outreach to Schools:** A recycling video was received by the high school, a link to the video will be put on the website. Ms. Pierce suggested adopting an inventor who wants to address something related to sustainability for Invention Convention, grades K-8. The Water & Sewer Authority sponsors a program also, but it is for 18 years and older. The High School principal looking into a grant and is interested in community involvement, internships, apprenticeships.
- 7. **Bridgeport Eco-Park:** no update.
- 8. **Ban on Fracking Waste:** no update.
- 9. **Organic Recycling:** The sign up for organic recycling has exceeded 247. Earth Day was a success with people signing up there. Newtown now has more participants than the other towns combined.

**Adjournment:** Ms. Pierce made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:31pm. The motion was seconded by Ms. Toomey. The motion was carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, June 16 at 7:00 pm at the Newtown Municipal Center in shared meeting room 3. A special meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 8 at 6:00pm in shared meeting room #3

Submitted, Susan Marcinek, clerk