

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

The Sustainable Energy Commission held a regular meeting Thursday, June 16, 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 7:06pm.

**Present:** Chairman Kathy Quinn, George Brown, Steve Gogliettino, Jeff Jorgenson, Dave Stout, Barbara Toomey

**Also Present:** Fred Hurley

**Absent:** Joseph Borst, Karen Pierce

**Communications:** There is an Energize CT event on June 23. There are two wind turbines coming online. Ms. Quinn and Ms. Toomey attended a CT round table on climate and jobs; it is geared toward providing information on the Governor's Council on Climate Change.

**Public Comments:** none.

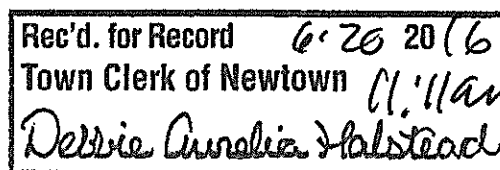
**Acceptance of Minutes:** Ms. Toomey made a motion to accept the minutes of the May 19, 2016 meeting minutes. Ms. Quinn seconded. The motion unanimously passed.

Mr. Brown made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 8, 2016 special meeting. Mr. Jorgenson seconded. The motion unanimously passed.

**Business:**

- a. **Status of Landfill Solar Projects:** The delay in work is because all reviews were halted until the virtual net metering was approved. All permitting will be done in September with a late September/October construction date. The interconnection agreement has been worked on as part of the application. There is a transformer on site that may be able to be used. There is an allowance of \$100,000 on the interconnection. Savings is immediate, but only on the generation portion of the bill.
- b. **Reed School solar project:** The application is in. The installation does not have to wait for the school to be closed in the summer; it can be put on right away. Mr. Stout is trying to have his company to donate time and labor to move the small system from Reed to the new Hook & Ladder firehouse on Church Hill Road. Ms. Toomey asked about the Parent Connection building. Mr. Hurley said it may possibly be a good spot for a small system but the Reed system may be better utilized elsewhere.
- c. **Energy Savings program update**

**Municipal Center:** Celtic reviewed the Energy Solution proposal; there were long extended paybacks on some of the recommended options. The bill will be unchanged for the first four years; over a longer period of time there will be a savings. Mr. Stout said that there has been some issues with LED and ballast upgrades; they are not reducing energy by much, so it's better to go with a direct line or retrofit to put LED tubes in to attach to the existing ballast.



**Waste Water Treatment Plant:** This is a work in progress; there is progress.

**Middle Gate School:** The natural gas plans have been finalized. They are going through the SBEA program for the lighting. The boiler project is scheduled for a July 1<sup>st</sup> start.

**Edmond Town Hall:** Mr. Hurley said the Edmond Town Hall is looking at some internal projects, including an HVAC update. They will have to evaluate the electrical system at that time.

- d. **Microgrid feasibility study:** The next step is to connect Celtic with Garner Correctional Facility, Newtown Youth Academy and Nunnawauk Meadows. The state buildings virtual net metering queue is wide open. DEP would subsidize for microgrid.
- e. **Street Lighting:** The RFP is being worked on for CCM and three other companies. The town has a complete list of all the street lights within the borough and the town.

**Additional Items for discussion:**

- 1. **EV Charging stations:** With the new budget an electric vehicle will be purchased as part of the fleet vehicles. Overnight chargers will be put at the Public Works garage and the Parks & Recreation Maintenance garage. More ideally charging stations should be in commercial areas. Information has been given to the Lexington Gardens project. Dual port charges are eligible for up to \$10,000 in grants.
- 2. **Municipal Energy Plan:** no update.
- 3. **Portfolio Manager:** Ms. Quinn has been in touch Eversource to find out when they will begin doing updates. Ms. Quinn asked Mr. Hurley for a seven year history on fuel oil and propane usage.
- 4. **Budget and Grant Spending:** Funds left in budget from previous years total \$12,270; the finance director will re-appropriate. These funds are for consultants or projects, such as providing LED lighting for the town Christmas trees. There is \$1,000 in the 2016-2016 budget and \$9,000 in grants; use for the grants need to be identified. We are 28 points away from being eligible for another \$10,000 Bright Ideas grant.
- 5. **Web Site:** Mr. Stout will update.
- 6. **Outreach to Schools:** no update.
- 7. **Bridgeport Eco-Park:** no update.
- 8. **Ban on Fracking Waste:** no update.
- 9. **Organic Recycling:** The program continues to grow; there are over 300 residents signed up.

**Adjournment:** Mr. Stout made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:13pm. The motion was seconded by Ms. Toomey. The motion was carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting will be held on July 21<sup>st</sup>; the meeting of August 18 will be cancelled.

Submitted, Susan Marcinek, clerk