

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY COMMISSION

The Sustainable Energy Commission held a regular meeting Thursday, December 15, 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 7:00p.m.

**Present:** Chairman Kathy Quinn, Mark Sievel, Dave Stout, Barbara Toomey

**Also Present:** Fred Hurley, one member of the press

**Absent:** Joseph Borst, George Brown, Jeff Jorgenson

**Communications:** Ms. Quinn and Mr. Hurley will attend the Board of Selectmen meeting of Dec. 19 to update the board on solar projects.

**Public Comments:** none.

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Mr. Stout moved to accept the minutes of November 17, 2016. Ms. Toomey seconded. Ms. Quinn noted that c. Grant Funds should read ‘\$5,000 is being used for the LED street light study’. All in favor of the minutes as amended.

**Business**

**Discussion and possible action:**

- a. **Status of Landfill Solar Projects:** an updated construction schedule will be available for the presentation to the selectmen on 12/19. The inter connection schedule has been received. We will soon know the operational and accepted dates. Construction is anticipated to begin late winter, early spring.
- b. **Reed School solar project:** A meeting with the construction installation group went very well. Scheduling around the school day was worked out. Direct is putting together a time table to include those adjustments. The hope is that this project be accepted by Eversource and operational by May 2017.
- c. **Solomon Solar project:** The Batchelder property is a potential brownfields clean up. Another possibility is putting a solar field at the Batchelder property which would be an approximate 3 megawatt project. There is no project yet so it would not qualify for a ZREC (zero renewable energy credit). Mr. Stout stated that banks are not looking favorably on these projects because the bank rates are going up; they are not seeing them as good investments.
- d. **Grant Funds – Memorandum of Understanding:** The memorandum of understanding for the grant funds has been approved. The grant funds include the street light study and the purchase of an EV charger.

Rec'd. for Record	12-19 2016
Town Clerk of Newtown	11:00am
Debbie Aurelia Halstead	

- e. **Energy Savings program update**  
**Municipal Center:** This project is almost complete.  
**Waste Water Treatment Plant:** This project is waiting on equipment.  
**Middle Gate School:** This project is complete.  
**Next Projects:** The three buildings discussed as possible next projects are Head 'O Meadow School, C.H. Booth Library and the Department of Public Works. Ms. Quinn will check the original results on the audits of each building to see what was focused on at that point in time.
- f. **Microgrid feasibility study:** no update.
- g. **Street Lighting:** The total package has been sent to Celtic. The letter to Eversource, to come up with a baseline, has been sent.
- h. **Open commission vacancies:** There are currently two vacant positions on the commission.
- i. **Funding for High School program:** Mr. Stout moved to have a conversation with Mr. DeJulio, of the Newtown High School, relative to student internships. Mr. Sievel seconded. All in favor. Mr. Hurley said there are internship funding possibilities through the Water & Sewer Authority.

**Additional Items for discussion:**

1. **EV Charging stations:** A dual head station, type 2, smart variety will be put at Fairfield Hills. A small unit will be put at the Public Works garage.
2. **Municipal Energy Plan:** no update.
3. **Energy Star Portfolio Manager:** Ms. Quinn is in the process of working on this.
4. **Budget and Grant Spending:** this was discussed under Grant Funds, item 'c' under Business.
5. **Web Site:** no update.
6. **Outreach to Schools:** this item was discussed under Funding for High School Program, item 'i' under Business.
7. **Bridgeport Eco-Park:** no update.
8. **Ban on Fracking Waste:** no update.
9. **Organic Recycling:** There are 400 participants signed up for the program.

**Adjournment:** Having no other business, the Sustainable Energy Commission adjourned their regular meeting at 8:00pm.

The next regular meeting will be held on January 19, 2016.

Submitted, Susan Marcinek, clerk