ENERGY COMMITTEE

TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR

Minutes

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March 10, 2020

Madden Room – South Windsor Town Hall Regular Meeting

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members Present:

Larry Brown, Resident

Hank Cullinane, Resident Robert Dickinson, Resident

Mike Gantick, Director of Public Works

Athena Loukellis, Resident Andy Paterna, Town Council Stephen Wagner, Resident

Members Absent:

Darrell Crowley, Board of Education Marek Kozikowski, Board of Education Councilor Cesar Lopez, Town Council Councilor Janice Snyder, Town Council

Sherman Tarr, Resident

Others Present:

Jeff Doolittle, Town Engineer

4. Next Meeting

Chairman Wagner explained that meetings are being canceled due to COVID-19 and will inform the Committee when meetings will start up again.

5. Business

A. Virtual Net Metering

a. Recommendation for the Contract for Powder Hill Enfield/Board of Education

Chairman Wagner stated that he wanted to get the Virtual Net Metering project on the Town Council agenda, but because of COVID-19, it has

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ITEM:

5. A. (Continued)

a. Recommendation for the Contract for Powder Hill Enfield/Board of Education

been stalled. Lodestar needs a Letter of Intent signed, which Chris Chemerka will be working on, but if this does not happen, Lodestar will be taking the Town off of this project and putting the Town on another project. The saving has gone up because of the rate increase and is now at \$1,500,000.

b. Update on Sand Road, North Canaan property

The Sand Road project has Town Council approval and is waiting for the Town Manager and Town Attorney to sign.

B. Report on the AEE Meeting (Hank)

Mr. Cullinane reported to the Committee on the Association of Energy Engineers Meeting. Mrs. Catherine Diviney is pushing to have a Town by Town competition to save energy. There are paid employees to do what volunteers here are doing. There is one person to go between the Town and Board of Education, which makes things a lot easier.

Chairman Wagner questioned if the lights in the parking lot could be taken out to save energy? Mr. Gantick explained that the Town is required to have lights in the parking lots.

C. Report on Emerging Technology with Electric Vehicles (Jeff Doolittle, Town Engineer)

Mr. Doolittle stated that he attended a DEEP Workshop on municipal electric vehicles. The Fleet Manager for the State of Connecticut was a speaker and explained that the State wants to have 25% of its fleet to be electric vehicles by 2030. Mrs. Daphne Dickson, another speaker, explained that a study would need to be done and that there are State and Federal grants available. Mr. Doolittle stated that he sees advantages.

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ITEM:

5. C. (Continued)

Chairman Wagner questioned if electric school buses were discussed? There are electric school buses as well as senior buses with grants available. The plan for electric vehicles would fit in with Sustainable CT, where points could be received, and Sustainable CT has matching grants available. Committee members discussed charging stations. Mr. Doolittle explained that there are two ways to pay for charging stations; the building pays for the electrical use or charge a certain amount for the use of the stations.

Committee members discussed how the Town could use electric vehicles, the process, and gave Mr. Doolittle consensus to reach out to Eversource to see if they would fund a study.

3. Approval of Minutes (February 11, 2020)

Mr. Gantick made a motion to approve the February 11, 2020 minutes. Mrs. Loukellis seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

D. Solar Carports (discussion)

Chairman Wagner stated that he would be having a discussion with Mr. Teff regarding a solar carport for the Police Department. Mr. Teff will do some research for the Town regarding this.

6. <u>Miscellaneous</u>

Committee members discussed the ability to set up a system for the Town to contract out for electricity that would be available for residents. Chairman Wagner stated that the Council did not seem to be in support of this type of program at this time.

Mr. Gantick informed the Committee about Eversource Energy programs that are available. LED is phasing out. There is approximately one year left on rebate programs. Mr. Gantick reviewed the program of reducing electricity demand during peak hours.

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6. Miscellaneous (Continued)

Mr. Gantick informed the Committee that the Town is working on boiler projects at the Police Department and Community Center. The projects are coming along slowly.

Chairman Wagner asked if anyone was interested in reviewing the actions in the plan that was for a five-years with the Town Manager to see where we are? Mrs. Loukellis said she would be interested.

7. Adjournment

At 5:31 p.m. Mr. Gantick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Cullinane seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah W. Reid

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Clerk of the Council