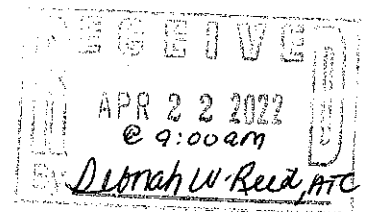


ENERGY COMMITTEE

TOWN OF SOUTH WINDSOR



Minutes

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April 19, 2022

1) Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:38 p.m.

2) Roll Call

Members Present: Councilor Andrew Paterna (Chairperson)
Councilor Marek Kozikowski (Vice-Chairperson)
Darrell Crowley, Director of Facility Operations, S.W. Public Schools
Athena Loukellis, Resident
Stephen Wagner, Resident
Sherman Tarr, Resident
Hank Cullinane, Resident
Jeff Doolittle, Town Engineer, Public Works

Members Absent: Councilor Cesar Lopez, Town Council
Larry Brown, Resident
James MacPherson, Resident

Others Present:

3) Approval of Minutes

Stephen Wagner made a motion to approve the Energy Committee Meeting minutes of March 8, 2022, and noted that there was an error recorded in the meeting minutes as far as who the current Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson was and asked for a correction to be made. The motion was seconded by Councilor Kozikowski and the motion passed by unanimous voice vote. **MOTION CARRIES.**

4) Next Meeting

Regular Meeting – Tuesday, May 10, 2022, in the Madden Room.

5) Business

A. Project Updates –

- a) Timothy Edwards – Solar Plus battery (Darrell Crowley)
- b) Pleasant Valley – Solar (Darrell Crowley)

Darrell Crowley informed members of the energy committee that there were currently no updates regarding the Timothy Edwards & Pleasant Valley projects and that he hoped to have an update for the next meeting.

- c) Stephen Wagner updated members of the energy committee regarding the Sewer Plant project and that vendor was able to visit the plant for the second time and that the vendor believes they

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have worked out the location of where they are going to put the battery which is very close to where the generator is.

d) Sewer Plant EV (preliminary discussion) – Jim Macpherson/ Steve Wagner)

No update was provided at this time.

e) Police Station update- including EVSE (Jeff Doolittle)

Jeff Doolittle updated members of the committee regarding the Police Station and indicated that the price of steel had gone up significantly since the project was first quoted in the last 6 months but that the power production vendor was able to hold the price initially quoted. Mr. Doolittle further explained that there was a sixteen (16) week lead time to get the steel so it should arrive sometime in July and that installation is hopefully to begin in August. Mr. Doolittle informed members of the committee that he was concerned about the electrical installation of the project because electrical equipment is very much delayed because of supply chain issues.

f) Update on Town Buildings/Energy Use – Steve Wagner

Stephen Wagner updated members of the committee regarding the energy usage and that overall the baseline usage was down about 8%. Mr. Wagner updated members on the energy usage as it relates to the sewer system and indicated that the flow rate has increased by 44% partly due to the growth within the South Windsor community and extra flows from collected rainwater which is not traditional sewage. However, despite the additional collection, energy usage is only increased by 11%.

Stephen Wagner updated members of the committee regarding the school systems' energy usage and that they were not down as much as were to be expected, mostly due to the concern on the need to increase ventilation due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic which is driving up energy use within the school system.

Stephen Wagner updated members of the committee regarding the Norcap South which has been in operation since 2017 and has saved 196,000 and 88,000 for Powder Hill and that a new plant, Platt Hill had recently come online in January which has already saved 5,000 and the savings to date is roughly 300,000 and the rough savings to date is \$55,000 and noted that the overall rate of power savings is 8,528 kWDC.

B. Guest Speaker(s) Invitations

Athena Loukellis updated members of the committee about inviting Energy Sage and wanted to know if Councilor Kozikowski and Ms. Loukellis could move forward with discussions to get them more involved as there is a benefit to both the Town and the committee. Chairman Paterna raised concerns that maybe this wasn't the right time to move forward and suggested organizing one specific meeting time to have multiple presentations in an effort to ensure fairness.

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C. Draft Letter to Town Council regarding incentives

Stephen Wagner updated members of the committee regarding the DRAFT letter to be sent to the Town Council regarding incentives and explained to members that a few changes had been proposed since the last meeting and including adding a summary section at the beginning of the letter and added recommendations in bold. Mr. Wagner discussed the proposed tax abatement for a typical commercial facility and the assessed value along with the mil rate and that the incentive would boost the tax insensitive by 16%. Mr. Wagner went on to further discuss and asked the committee what they thought would be appropriate to change public behavior as far as energy consumption.

Chairman Paterna added that he thought it might be a worthwhile idea to take the incentive percentages out of the recommended tax abatement. Councilor Kozikowski further suggested that maybe the proposal should be mandated through abatement instead of done through zoning and that if entities wanted the abatement they would need to offer energy savings concessions.

Athena Loukellis suggested adding a section to the letter to better address fuel cells because it wasn't mentioned under combined heat and power on page 3 in the event that new energy sources were to come into town.

D. Renewable Energy and Battery Storage Sub-Committee

Hank Cullinane updated members of the committee regarding the Clean Energy Group and suggested sharing this information with the South Windsor Chamber of Commerce as the information can be a little hard to find on Eversource's website.

An update was also given regarding CT Legislature House Bill 5479 which address indoor air quality within the School system and would make the Department of Public Health come up with a program to address air quality and set ventilation standards, however, the fiscal analysis put forward would be a significant investment on behalf of the municipalities. Air qualities levels would need to be published on the Board of Educations website and that if the School system was not in compliance within a two (2) hour period the effected school may be closed for a duration of time.

E. Electric Vehicle Sub-Committee

Jeff Doolittle updated members of the committee regarding the process of the State bidding process and that grants are available and that there is an upfront cost to the Town and that there isn't money in the budget for something like this. Mr. Doolittle estimated that the cost could be as much as \$10,000 - \$20,000 per installation. Mr. Doolittle explained his concern about the timetable as he wasn't sure how long grant money would be available to partially fund projects.

F. Outreach Sub-Committee

No update was given.

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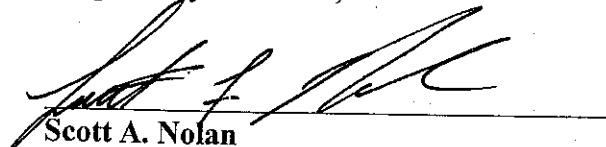
G. State and National Energy Update

Stephen Wagner updated members of the committee regarding a webinar he had attended regarding the clean energy group which is a non-profit that comes in to assess facilities installation and resilient solar, plus storage. The idea is to use the battery and solar to save money but also to store energy to help extend energy supplies in the event of an extended power outage.

6) Adjournment

There being no more business to come before the meeting, Hank Cullinane made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 p.m. which was seconded by Sherman Tarr and passed by a unanimous voice vote.
MOTION CARRIES.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott A. Nolan
Clerk of the Council