



TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS

ENERGY COMMITTEE

FINAL MINUTES: AUGUST 9, 2016

Members: ■ Tom Hall, ■ Carlton D. Hunt, □ TBD

Guests: Andrew DeItonno and Lisa Sullivan of the Bridgewater Community and Economic Development Office (CED).

The August 9, 2016 Energy Committee (EC) meeting was called to order @ 4:00 PM in the Memorial Building with a quorum present. The agenda was approved. There were no announcements. The minutes of the June 13, 2016 meeting were reviewed and approved.

The committee appointed Carlton Hunt as Chairman by consensus. The draft mission statement was reviewed and approved. It reads:

The Bridgewater Energy Committee's mission is to enable the Town's Departments, citizens, and commercial entities to contribute to a sustainable world. The Energy Committee advises the Town's elected Officials, the Town Manager, Town Departments, committees, and citizens on energy conservation and access to renewable energy sources. The Committee seeks to assist, educate, communicate, and inspire Bridgewater to maximize energy efficiency, meet energy reduction goals, and sustain environmental stewardship.

The committee voted (2/0) to meet quarterly with the August 9th meeting constituting FY17's first quarter meeting. October 6, 2016 @ 4PM was set as the next meeting date. The location in the Academy Building is TBD pending conference room scheduling.

Two topics under the energy aggregation agenda were considered: Solcifice Initiative documents and Colonial Energy's aggregate energy contract from OCPC.

The Solstice Initiative marketing flyer was discussed and found missing information on the length of the commitment (20 yrs) and early termination conditions. The committee was advised by the Town's community and Economic Development Director of the Town Manager's decision to not allow inclusion of any marketing literature in town utility bills or any other mailings or postings due to the appearance of an endorsement of one supplier over others. The Committee agreed that Carlton would notify Solstice to this affect.

The EC continued discussion of the proposed Solstice MOU (attached) to explore potential development of a Community Solar field constructed on publicly owned land in Bridgewater

The CED Director noted that a large capacity water well has been drilled on the former Chaffee Farm Town property which is one of the Town owned properties that has potential for solar field development. The advent of a water well on the property may affect the ability to build a solar field and potential conflicts would need to be explored. The Committee authorized the EC Chair to request a formal review and determination of the next steps up to and including whether the Town Council must approve such MOU's.

No discussion of the Colonial Energy by the Old Colony Planning Council for energy aggregation was held pending input from the Town Manager. The Committee agreed to have Carlton meet with the Town Manager to gauge his interest in moving forward with the contract (no cost to the town).

The Town won a Green Community FY16 competitive grant. The contract was effective on July 21st and all tasks must be completed by May 31, 2017. The Town's contractor for energy upgrades



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will be authorized to process as soon as the grant is accepted by the town council. Energy upgrades to the Memorial Building will be coordinated with planned building improvements.

The National GRID credits were distributed as of June 9, 2016. The CED Director conveyed that the Town's Financial Director, who is on leave, had modeled the credits versus paid past bills and expects the credits to be consumed by the end of FY17. Carlton will request a meeting with the Financial Director to gain an understanding of the methodology and findings. Discussion of the role of the EC in such activities ensued. The EC chair will request a meeting with the Town Manager to clarify boundaries.

Action on energy related ordinances (wind) will be deferred due to concerns of the CED Director regarding potential controversies and limitations of staff availability. No immediate needs to revise the solar ordinance were noted by the CED Director.

Under other business, EC Chair present draft FY16 energy consumption data and trends graphics that are based on the MEI data available through June 30, 2016 (attached). A discussion of ways to ensure energy bills are reviewed for consistency and seasonal realities ensued. The Chair was authorized to send a recommendation to the Town Manager to formalize energy bill review policies for all departments to ensure unanticipated or unusual use of energy can be addressed before excess costs are incurred.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for October 6th 4PM in the Academy Building.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carlton D. Hunt".

Submitted by Carlton D. Hunt, Ph.D.,

EC Chair