



TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS ENERGY COMMITTEE

FINAL MINUTES: MAY 23, 2018

Members Present: ✓ Kevin Bligh ✓ Tom Hall, ✓ Carlton D. Hunt

Guests: Kim Willaims, Assistant Town Manager; Town Councilers Chase and Sousa; Recreation Director, Andrew Sulkeforth, Energy staff; Charles Simon; Golf Committee memeber, Jim Campbell; Citizen, Niccole Holms

The May 23, 2018 Energy Committee (EC) meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM in Room 201a of the Academy Building with a quorum present. The agenda was approved.

There were no announcements.

Public comments were entertained at the close of the meeting.

The February 01, 2018 minutes were approved without change (3/3).

Chair Hunt updated the committee on the status of the potential to convert streetlights to LED fixtures. After considerable discussion regarding the reasons for the Town not acting on the EC's February 1, 2018 recommendation to proceed with the project a motion was made and seconded (Bligh, Hall) for the Chair to draft and submit a letter describing the MAPC application process for the Town to participate in the last MAPC group streetlight conversion RFP and reaffirm the EC's previous recommendation to move the project forward a quickly as possible. (Motion passed 3/3).

After the vote Andrew Sukeforth brought up two options he had developed regarding the possible pathways. The options were provided to the EC without sufficient time to assess the implications and the urgency of starting the project under MAPC procurement, the committee chose to proceed under the above motion. Because of uncertainties regarding the information discussed at this time, the EC request that Mr. Sukeforth submit a memo to the committee describing his research regarding the options and findings.

The Green Communities FY18 competitive procurement was developed by Mr. Sukeforth and submitted. The initial request included funding for electric vehicles, charging stations and funding for the streetlight conversion project assessment and design step. In early April 2018 the Green Communities Regional Coordinator notified the Town that assessment and design project, previously encouraged by him, was not eligible for Green Communities funding. Hence, the proposal was resubmitted sans that project. The state is currently reviewing the proposals.

Mr. Sukeforth presented a draft RFP he developed for an assessment and recommendations of alternative energy options at the golf course. Discussion of the possible options to consider lead to a suggestion that the RFP report requirements include a project phasing recommendation. This is especially relevant given the potential to construct a solar canopy for the parking lot and the likely associated cost of improved drainage control. (Post meeting note: Ms. Holms, based on her engineering expertise, suggested that the canopy could become part of the drainage solution through integration of drain pipes into the structures of the canopy). The committee and golf course representative were supportive of the draft RFP and encouraged quick action on the project. Mr. Sukeforth was asked to explore whether competitive Green Communities funds could support alternative energy installations at the golf course.

The Chair presented tree graphs showing the seasonal trends in the Marina Field solar energy supply, season supply versus Town electrical consumption, and cumulative percentage of solar energy supply vs consumption. Through April 2018 the filed has provided ~76%.



TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS ENERGY COMMITTEE

FINAL MINUTES: MAY 23, 2018

The need to update the solar ordinance was briefly considered. Citizen concerns were raised regarding the ordinance allowing large solar fields in residential districts and potential conflicts between the ordinance and the Open Space and Recreation Plan goals for open space preservation. The process for revising the solar ordinance was discussed.

Discussion of other items not forthcoming, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled is TBD in Room 201B of the Academy Building.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carlton D. Hunt, Ph.D." in a cursive style.

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