

Energy Commission
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
June 20, 2019
1st Floor Executive Meeting Room

PRESENT: Sean Dunn, Dave Butkus, Karen Hintz, Tom Ragaini and Sheldon Scott and Jennifer Arasimowicz (entered at 7:10 pm)

ALSO PRESENT: Dave Oakes, Greg Hahn, Ray Rogozinski and Roger Rousseau (entered at 7:15 p.m.)

1. Call to Order

Chairman Dunn called the meeting to order 7:01 p.m.

2. Public Participation

None

3. Approval of the May 16, 2019 Minutes

Karen Hintz made a motion seconded by Sheldon Scott to approve the minutes from May 16, 2019. Motion approved.

4. Updates by Dave Oakes, Public Facilities & Energy Manager

Dave was not present at the meeting, Ray Rogozinski provided updates.

- Board of Education Operations met to discuss solar panels at CHMS, BOE didn't support installation. Karen Hintz could not get a motion on the floor, one member felt the process was being rushed the application deadline was one week away from when they were meeting. The State has not extended the deadline at the time. Adam who came this meeting was present and would be doing most of the work for the application, however Karen as Chair could not make a motion and could not get a motion on the floor.
- Natural gas installation has been completed on North Main Street and the back of City Hall, extended down to Central Firehouse. Meters installed on City Hall, Firehouse and Police Department. In order to make it operational pipes need to be ran to the boilers and funding is in place for those projects.
- Dave attended a seminar on Green Banks, which is in line with what the Chairman has been discussing.
- LED lighting at the Library is a project supported by the 10 Year CIP which funding is available on July 1
- Dave has been doing work on the Sustainable CT, application deadline is August 30. NVCOG has hired two interns to assist communities, working towards a silver rating. Sean questioned how participation is going with Departments, Ray confirmed Departments are working with Dave. The educational component with Departments is just as important as the silver rating. The Parks Department is changing out the pump at the pool with a more energy efficient pump, that information should be relayed to Dave Oakes.
- Virtual Net Metering – The City was approached for virtual net metering, the concept is ultimately a solar company it's an arrangement where the provider

approached the City an arrangement to lock in and receive savings on electrical costs virtually, the facilities are outside of Bristol Bethlehem and Windsor. The City receives savings, through a rebate from Eversource. The Mayor is in the process of executive a letter of intent to Sunjet to move forward with virtual net metering for the City to receive this savings based on a Special City Council meeting. All our savings through Purchasing still exist, this is an additional rebate. 20 electrical accounts can be used, and one account used can be streetlights. Roger Rousseau stated there is very little risk to the City, we are sponsoring the program and receiving the rebates. Jenn questioned which program we were participating in, it's the Municipal Virtual Net Metering Program. Only municipalities, agriculture and state facilities are eligible to participate. Jenn stated if for some reason we don't make the list there is another program available through the shared community clean energies program.

- A Public Information Session was held on worm composting and residential recycling will be held.

5. Updates by Greg Hahn of Review to City Council – Energy Commission Activities Since Inception

Greg Hahn brought the City Council up to speed. The Council is very interested in the Green Bank and how that is proceeding along with how the audit and how that will go in the Green Bank. The overall idea of self-funding with the Green Bank is attractive to everyone as this is a good example of what is trying to get done on this Commission. Greg would like to bring this information to Council each month. Tom suggested talking to John Smith and the Mayor having a member of the Board of Finance come to the meetings to know what is going on with the Commission. Everything was very well received and the Council wants to hear more.

Greg would like to see any money that comes back from the audit to start the Green Bank, as the City won't see this opportunity again. The Commission could make a proposal to send to Council to establish the Green Bank. Ray stated when the authorization for the agreement is signed for the audit and the percent is established, it's a discussion with Council and sent to Board of Finance. Roger stated it's just as important to bring this to the Board of Finance at the same time to establish the Fund. Greg will follow up with discussions on this. Sean stated the Commission should proceed with the Green Bank and bring it to Council and then to Board of Finance to establish in the coming months. Funding from the audits of 25% can be used to start the Green Bank.

6. Discussion of 2P19-115 Utility Billing Audit Services

Discussion was held on the scoring and ranking the Commissioners put together for their review of the utility billing audit services. NuEnergen requires an appropriation of \$10,000 as an upfront cost. Greg Hahn stated if you limit yourself to two you are selling yourself short as each company is so unique, so three might be a better number to interview in this case. Sean didn't see much municipal town experience within these companies. Roger wants to properly time this, as the City will be going out to bid soon for electricity and Eversource provides one time data for free and then charges for additional information. Jenn stated a lot of the way this information is done is the amount of data you can provide. Jenn suggested 15 min presentations and 15 min questions and answers.

Councilman Hahn left the meeting at 8:00 pm

Tom Ragaini made a motion seconded by Jenn Arasimowicz "To interview three companies, Troy & Banks, American Utility, NuEnerGen." Motion approved

7. Any other business

Roger came from the South Side HVAC meeting and there is a big focus on energy related. Sheldon asked if there were any energy control in that building, Roger stated there was not but there will be.

Sean would like to have everyone review the Council summary with the Commission's focus, the audit will be next and the Green Bank as well. Integrating the Board of Finance and Council should help get this off the ground.

Dave asked if the Commission should work on questions for the audit interviews. Roger suggested to send them all to Jodi and she will circulate them back out to everyone to focus on in the interviews. Keep in mind the Committee will only have 15 minutes, so there won't be 15 questions.

8. Adjournment

Tom Ragaini made a motion seconded by Sheldon Scott "to adjourn" at 8:08 p.m.

Jodi A. McGrane
Recording Secretary