

Energy Commission
Minutes of Regular Meeting
August 15, 2019
City Hall Council Chambers

PRESENT: Sean Dunn, Karen Hintz, Tom Ragaini, Sheldon Scott and Jennifer Arasimowicz, Dennis Siriani

ABSENT: Dave Butkus

ALSO PRESENT: Dave Oakes, Ray Rogozinski, and Greg Hahn (entered at 7:15 pm)

1. Call to Order

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

2. Public Participation

None

3. Approval of the Minutes

a. June 20, 2019 Regular Meeting

Karen Hintz made a motion seconded by Jenn Arasimowicz to approve the minutes from June 20, 2019.

b. July 18, 2019 Special Meeting

Karen Hintz made a motion seconded by Jenn Arasimowicz to approve the minutes from July 18, 2019.

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

Dave Oakes provided updates on various projects throughout the City including the LED lights at the library. There is a rebate which will be going back to ELC leaving a balance in the project account when it is complete. Discussion was held on using this balance to start a Green Bank for the City. Dave has been working with vendors for various proposals for projects throughout the City including at the Malone Aquatic Center. The natural gas installation should be complete by the heating season. There is oil at headquarters that will be pumped out and given to the Board of Education. Karen discussed the Stafford School roof project, which the state is now reimbursing for solar panels. Chris Wilson is also encouraging solar at West Bristol fields and Roberts property.

5. Sustainable CT Update

Dave is wrapping up the application for submission, there are a lot of items he is applying for with approximately 550 points, and 400 points are needed to obtain silver. The main component is three equity tool kits are needed to obtain silver status and without those you will not get it. The City did hold the composting, invasive species and community resilience workshops which should help.

6. Energy Audit Process Update

The City is proceeding with American Utility. Sean and Dave discussed Tunxis suspending their Energy Management degree program due to the lack of interest in the program.

7. Evaluating Options to Create a Green Bank

The LED project will cost \$172,793 to the City which will leave approximately \$161,000 in the budget. Ray stated Staff can prepare a request for the Board of Finance to use these funds to create a Green Bank account. Discussion was held if there are examples from other towns. This topics will be discussed further at the next meeting.

8. Using MUNIS to Classify Energy Related Work in City Budgets

Greg Hahn stated he would like to give the City Council another update on a quarterly basis going forward. Sean would like to bring Orlando up to speed at the next meeting, and make the request at the October Board of Finance meeting.

9. Tracking Water Pollution Control Fuel Cell Project

Dave spoke to Roger Rousseau, they are finalizing the design documents and he will keep in touch with Sean Hennessey and Rob Longo on this.

10. Developing Strategy to Maintain Portfolio Manager

Dave explained not all the meters are in Portfolio Manager, Sean explained the Commission can work on a plan and goal for the future similar to what was established in the past. This is a service provided by EPA at no charge. Sean asked the Commission to think about future goals.

11. Discussion regarding Bingham and O'Connell School Solar Aquaponic Greenhouses

Discussion was held on this project as it is a private developer designing and doing the work, but it is a very interesting concept with fish farming and solar panels on the building and resident in the building operating a greenhouse. Bingham is more cut and dry as it's a small building in the back, O'Connell is more accessory use. Sean stated there's a lot going on that clean and green in the City.

12. Any other business

Karen discussed public participation and limiting the time limit on the agenda for future meetings. Sean agreed and will address is at future meetings.

13. Adjournment

Sheldon Scott made a motion seconded by Karen Hintz “to adjourn” at 8:01 p.m.

Jodi A. McGrane
Recording Secretary