



TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS ENERGY COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES: NOVEMBER 04, 2019

Members Present: ✓ Kevin Bligh ✓ Carlton D. Hunt

Guests: Town Councilor, District 4: Fred Chase; Green Communities Regional Coordinator; Lisa Sullivan: Community and Economic Development Director: Jennifer Burke

The November 4, 2019 Energy Committee (EC) meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM in Room 201b of the Academy Building with a quorum present. The agenda was approved. There were no announcements.

Old Business

1. Green Communities update:

- a. VFW energy payments: The chair notified the committee that the Town now pays the energy use at the Orange street VFW and the accounts have been added to the MEI database.
- b. LED Street Light Project: Ms. Burke indicated completion of procurement and contracting activities should be complete by the end of the calendar year. A March to May 2020 installation is anticipated.
- c. EV station Phase 2: Ms. Burke reported progress includes a grant from Massachusetts Development includes two additional EV vehicles and \$2500 for Level 2 charging stations is in place. Installation is planned for the Library parking lot within 180 days of the grant award (by 4/18/2020).
- d. GC competitive grant: Ms. Sullivan indicated the cycle typically initiated early in calendar year could be delayed due to the late date of prior year grants. Also discussed was Bridgewater's eligibility to apply for a competitive GC grant this coming year. She indicated the town could not apply for another competitive grant until the LED Street light Project is signed off. Ms. Burke reported the Executive Office staff met and determined not to apply for a grant in 2020 pending a Town wide municipal energy assessment (See Item 4 below).

2. Potential Competitive Grant projects:

- a. Solarizing the Golf Course: The committee and guests discussed how to move this forward. The discussion concluded the Golf Course Managers should pursue alternative energy grants to achieve their alternative energy goals. Ms. Burke will inform the managers of the recommendation.
- b. Anti-idling equipment on Town vehicles: No discussion.
- c. Energy upgrade needs: see item 4 below.



TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS

ENERGY COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES: NOVEMBER 04, 2019

3. Energy Projects before town Boards and Committees.
 - a. Flagg and Bedford St.: Site plan approved by the Planning Board. Includes a financial gift to the Town as mitigation for substantial tree removal.
 - b. Citizens energy off Bedford St.: pending final close out of the landfill. Permit will be issued once closeout is complete.
4. Alternative energy assessment (former Golf Course energy assessment)
 - a. Ms. Burke reported the executive office had met and determined to go out to bid for a Town wide municipal energy audit.
 - b. She reported the committee would be invited into scope discussions. No schedule was provided.
5. Annual Green Community Report planning
 - a. Report is due December 4, 2019. Mr. Romulus is charged with completing the report.
 - b. The Chair will work with Mr. Romulus to complete the report and provided reviews thereof.
 - c. The chair brought up concerns regarding missing historic fossil fuel use and cost caused by oversight of the data. He presented a way to hindcast the data to ensure the high percentage increase in the Water and Sewer accounts could be mitigated. The decisions revolved around whether the issue should be a discussion item in the annual report or the hindcast data should be uploaded. is a discuss. The consensus was to not upload the hindcast data, rather discuss the issue in the annual report. Ms. Sullivan indicated she would discuss the issue with the GC managers.
 - d. Potentially petitioning the GC to change our baseline year was considered and rejected due to effort involved and potential to alter our evidence of building energy reductions.
6. Solar energy supply update

The Chair provided a set of draft figures (attached) showing three complete fiscal years data. The solar field provided FY19 95% of the municipal electrical demand in FY19, up from 85% in FY16. This increase is primarily due to decrease in electrical consumption over this time period. The Chair noted that upgrading the streetlight to LEDs could lower demand such that the Town would have an excess of power available from the solar field on Fireworks Circle.
7. Solar energy supply data. Data uploads continues. Changes to the fossil fuel use discussed above will not be made. Thus, the data for reporting FY19 energy use complete.



TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER, MASSACHUSETTS ENERGY COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES: NOVEMBER 04, 2019

8. Ordinances

- a. Solar Ordinance modifications (TBD) No action taken
- b. Wind Bylaw (TBD) No action taken

New Business

1. Admin code requirement for committees to report annually to the Town Council is under study by the Town Manager and Town Council.
2. As brought up by committee.
 - a. The Chair asked for a discussion on requiring future housing and commercial construct be made EV ready. Mr. Bligh provided an ordinance from Carlsbad, CA as an example of how this could be done. Discussion indicated it would be hard to implement such a requirement in Massachusetts due to M.G.L. restrictions on building requirements. Ms. Burke agreed to have the Planning Board ask developers to make structures EV ready, especially commercial projects where public parking would benefit.
 - b. Mr. Bligh announced he was resigning from the committee due to his increasing work and family commitments.

There were no public comments

No other business being brought up and no public comments, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for 6:30 PM, TBD, Room 201B of the Academy Building.

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

EC Chair

Meeting handouts

1. Documentation for hindcasting Fuel oil use by the sewer department
2. Zoning for future EV society: <https://www.carlsbadca.gov/services/depts/pw/environment/cap/evres.asp>