

Minutes  
Chester Clean Energy Team  
February 12, 2018

Members: Pat Woomer, Sandy Prisløe, Rick Holloway, Peter Harding, Ed Meehan\*, Lauren Gister (ex officio) (\*= not in attendance)

Guests: None

The E-Team meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m.

Audience of Citizens — None

Approval of minutes. Minutes of the Special Meeting on November 30, 2017 to discuss streetlight program status will be distributed later for approval at the February meeting.

Action: Pat

Minutes of the meeting on January 8 were approved with the addition of "an additional \$260.75 were spent for bulbs."

Review of Tanko Phase 1 install and Post-Construction Summary

Lauren to provide Pat with the actual cost figures.

Discussion about resolving the discrepancy between the 313 light count from Eversource with the 311 count from Tanko and the Town. Tanko to help negotiate this with ES. We await the final Eversource audit to close out the project. Tanko is reportedly expediting the Eversource audit. Pat to request the date from Tanko.

Discussion of the maintenance program. The maintenance services contained in the project will expire in April. The \$1 per month per pole cost would only cover provision of a 24-hour call center and "administration." It was decided that the Town could assume these duties, with the Public Works manager having Red Thread do any service required. This would be covered by the existing Public Works budget, or possibly under a distinct line item to cover streetlight maintenance.

The Town needs to establish a reserve fund to have funds available for expected light replacements in 10-20 years. This should be paid out of the expected savings generated by this project. The Energy Team suggested setting aside \$10,000 per year for the next 10 years for expected light replacement.

Clarified that the Energy Team was only responsible for energy, and that any questions on placement would be handled by the selectpersons.

Update on Phase 2 retrofit of post-top lamps.

All but two lamps in the Meeting House parking lot have been fitted with LED bulbs and frosted chimneys. The remaining ones will be updated by Public Works. Rick will take care of having the bulbs in the gazebo replaced as necessary. All replacement lamps were purchased under the #1 BIG grant, qualifying since all reduce energy consumption. The cost of replacement poles does not qualify under this grant.

LaPlace-Eagan will be contracted to modify the remaining lamps (Town Hall, Maple Street, and Main Street) this Spring. Some of these need new wooden poles; Lauren will ask Public Works to evaluate how many need to be replaced.

Discussion that the existing lighting in the Maple Street parking lot and along the path to Main Street is not sufficient. Rick will explore what alternative lamps could be provided. It was suggested that Downward facing LED fixtures similar to what either Tanko or the DOT have

provided should be considered. If the existing Scofield lamp fixtures end up being replaced, they could be incorporated into the Main Street project, which has reportedly specified installing more of this type of lamp.

CES Contract Status and effect of State and Federal changes.

The town-signed contract has been sent to Greenskies. It is not known how the recent sale of Greenskies to another company and the imposition of trade tariffs on Chinese panels will affect the project. The project appears to be on schedule. Tree work at the Elementary School is scheduled during the Spring vacation. Lauren will inquire what company will be performing this work.

Energy Team accomplishments and numbers (EPA Summary input).

A list of accomplishments was circulated. These need data on actual or expected energy reductions, and the list needs to be divided into appropriate categories. Members of the E-Team will do this for the March meeting.

Discussion as to whether we need to continue to enter data into the EPA Portfolio Manager program since this was a requirement of the now-defunct Clean Energy Communities program. The EPA P/M program has proven to be unwieldy for a town of our size, and it does not account for data from solar generation, WPCA pumps, or streetlights. There is definitely a need for a simple means for tracking and reporting energy consumption by Town buildings. Rick and Sandy will meet to develop a recommendation as to how this need may be met in the most convenient and efficient manner.

Request from PoCD for E-Team info (Hartford Climate Action Plan)

This was discussed briefly, but no action taken. Discussion will resume in the March meeting.

Energy Team website update

To be discussed in March.

Open Action items (Note: # indicates an action item carried over from a previous meeting)

# Peter will examine why the ductless mini-split condenser is located inside the Firehouse. [ It was probably because the roof was unfinished at the time unit was installed. Cost to revise probably not worth the summer energy savings. We may evaluate this later.]

# Jim S will obtain specific quotes for replacement of the Firehouse boilers.

# Pat will inquire what Region 4 is doing to follow electrical costs.

# Rick will request that Sharon Echtman add columns for the supplier, the rate, and the expiration date to the spreadsheet showing monthly electrical usages and costs . [per minutes of March 13, 2017 meeting, we recommended staying with Eversource as supplier until major changes in town have been completed. We will revisit this in October.]

# Ed will draft a letter for Lauren to send to CT Water Co to see if they have any interest in partnering for a PV installation on their property near High Meadow Road. [this is complex because the Water Company is a public utility.]

# Energy Star Certification: will be addressed at a future meeting.

# Lauren is looking into reports on an old Small Cities Grant which was apparently never completely used up. The manager of Cherry Hill complex wants to use this towards needed upgrades there. It is possible that there is enough left in the grant to permit energy efficiency upgrades by other Chester residents as well.

# Lauren will have an electrician deactivate the discontinued light on Waterhouse Ln.

#Lauren will ask what other towns in the CCM have done about the cost of moving existing fixtures to new poles as they are replaced by Eversource. Lauren will also determine from Dave Racke (Eversource) the criteria for pole replacement. If Eversource maintains a spreadsheet for this, can Chester receive a copy,

# Lauren will investigate lighting for the Town parking lot on Water Street and whether this can be included in the lease arrangement for the building which is presently being negotiated.

Adjournment: 10:50 AM

Next meeting 9:00 AM Monday, March 12, 2018

R.P. Holloway