

Minutes
Chester Clean Energy Team
December 10, 2018

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

The E-Team meeting was called to order at 9.05 AM

Audience of Citizens — None

Approval of minutes. The minutes of the November 19th regular meeting were approved with the deletion of the following line: “ **Ed** will speak with those firms to whom the RFQ was issued to determine why none of them bid on the re-installation.”

Meeting dates: A MOTION made and approved to hold to the same schedule (2nd Mondays) for 2019.

Officers: A MOTION made and approved to continue with the same chair (Pat) and vice-chair (Rick) for 2019.

CES Install status

The new system is still not operational. Greenskies awaits monitoring equipment. There was incidental damage to the roof during installation. Repairs to holes were approved by the company which carries the warranty on the roof.

Trees will have to be cut during the December school break. The discrepancy between the original scope of tree trimming and what was later added during marking in the field does not appear to have been resolved. In addition to those to be cut for the solar project, there are many dead trees which render the ropes challenge course unsafe. James G to resolve.

Status of former CES solar array, some options

1. Sell the system as used equipment; energy savings have paid for the town's investment.
Lauren to ensure that panels are stored so that they are safe from damage.
2. Have Aegis install the used system on the firehouse roof for \$15k.
3. Sell the old system and enter into a PPA for a new, larger system.

In any case, we should meet with the fire commission and the hose company before adopting any of these. Reinforcing the roof over the entrance hall would avoid firemen having to shovel any snow off the roof in this area.

Since a large portion of the Firehouse electric bill is due to large peak demand charges, pay-back from a solar system is likely to be slow.

There are many uncertainties at present, including the fate of the ZREC program, the status of virtual net metering, and the new tariff system proposed by Eversource. Although the town owns the system outright, it is not clear who owns the ZRECs and whether these can be sold with the old system. **Lauren** will investigate a) the contract date for installation of the original panels, b) how many panels were supplied by CEFIA, and c) who owns the ZRECs for the system.

The E-Team will not move forward on this project until these uncertainties have been cleared up.

Recommendation for distribution of additional LED bulbs purchased as part of the BIG grant.

These will be distributed by the Selectwoman's office. Sandy has prepared stickers for two-bulb packs which members of the E-Team will help assemble.

Issues remaining from LED streetlight project

1) Future maintenance issues and costs

The two-year contract with Tanko does not end until mid-year 2019. At that time we can decide what to do. Options include: entering into a contract with Red Thread, Eversource, or a third party. Or, joining a joint maintenance agreement with other towns in the CCM or RiverCOG.

2) Final checkoff inventory from Eversource and current billing problems.

Lauren will see if Tanko received the final audit inventory from Eversource and will obtain a copy for Chester if this is the case.

Lauren will see if the town is receiving from Eversource, a separate bill for the lights not included on the main bill (which only included 282 out of 313 known lights). Decoratives missing?

Tanko was required to resolve discrepancies between their list of lights converted to LEDs and any list which Eversource is using. This has not been done. We are still being billed for 13 sodium vapor lights even though we know these were converted to LEDs.

3) Tanko final data (GIS) availability and open issues.

Sandy will expedite delivery of the full GIS data list from Tanko for both Phase I and Phase II lights. This list includes data on arm lengths, heights, etc. These lists were included in the Tanko contract even though Tanko only converted the lights in Phase I.

4) Resident issues and handling of complaints. By the selectman's office.

The Carry Over List

These items are still open. See next page.

Phase II LED install

Scott Mills has been working full time for the town. Conversion will resume in the Spring.

Adjournment: 10:34 AM

Next Meeting : January 14, 2019

Respectfully submitted,
R. P. Holloway

Energy Task Force — **Open Action items** updated 10/15/2018

The following items will continue to be listed:

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

Complete pending confirmation that ES will fill this data.

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. *Continue.*

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

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.

Lauren will ask Public Works to evaluate how many wooden poles need to be replaced (at Town Hall and in the Maple Street parking lot).

Members of the E-Team need to review the list of accomplishments and provide data on actual or expected energy reductions. The list needs to be divided into appropriate categories.

Rick and Sandy will reformat the spreadsheet used by the Finance department to enable faster entry of water and fuel oil data into the EPA PM.

Pat will provide a revised copy of the draft Municipal Action Plan generated under the Technical Assistance program to the PoCD committee.