

Minutes
Chester Clean Energy Team
February 11, 2019

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

Guests: James Gry, Meagan Occhiogrosso (Greenskies), Allen Sabins (Commercial Solar Works)

The E-Team meeting was called to order at 9.00 AM

Audience of Citizens — None

Approval of minutes. The minutes of the February 11, 2019 regular meeting were approved. There was no meeting in March 2019.

CES Solar System

An additional 23 trees will be removed during the April school break. The challenge course tree will be removed eventually.

James G expressed concern that the energy savings appear to be far less than expected. **He** will post the URL for the solar readout to E-Team members and it will be added to the town's website.

It is deemed desirable to have a "ribbon cutting" to celebrate the installation of the new solar system. **Meagan** will have Greenskies' PR person contact Lauren to arrange something in May.

Fire House solar

Commercial Solar Works (CSW) is a spinoff from Greenskies intended to handle smaller projects. **Allen** will send a copy of a proposal to James G and will plan to attend the next E-Team meeting. The uncertainty surrounding the status of virtual net metering makes it difficult to plan. Under the present tariffs, systems are sized to accommodate only about 80% of a building's power needs. Although it may be possible to design a system which can accommodate future expansion, the ZREC limits the ability to expand the size of the proposed system. The ZREC has been maintained so it is still valid, but there are only 13 of the original 15 years remaining.

Disposition of the former CES solar array

It was originally installed in 2005. Some options for its reuse were discussed. For town use, only the town garage seems practical. On the other hand, the large seasonal variation in the instantaneous demand at the Town Garage means that the savings there will be small. A donation of the panels to either Cherry Hill or Brian House is also a possibility and will be explored. Metering of individual apartments at Cherry Hill complicates that possibility. Examination of these possibilities will be continued.

Streetlight Project.

The maintenance agreement with Tanko runs out in October of this year. The **E-Team** needs to recommend a selection before then. Options include a) go directly to Red Thread, b) arrange an agreement with another company, c) join a maintenance agreement with other towns through RiverCOG, or d) Use Eversource for maintenance.

Streetlight Project (cont'd)

We have received the full Tanko inventory and data set, and compared it to the Eversource inventory. Some questions remain about the billing.

Phase 2. The lamps which have not already been upgraded (along Main St) will be removed as part of the Main Street Project so Phase 2 is considered complete. Nevertheless, since the Maple Street parking area will see heavy use during the Main Street project, the lighting there and along the pathway will need to be improved. It seems likely that the existing Scofield lamps will be replaced, so can be used to provide additional lighting along the walkway. Rick is available to provide assistance as needed. **Lauren** will arrange a meeting on this subject with Rick and Jacobson Engineering.

Rick will examine permitted uses for the BIG Grant as over \$4000 of that grant remains to be used.

The Carry Over List

These items are still open. See next page.

Adjournment: 10:55 AM

Next Meeting : May 13, 2019

Respectfully submitted,
R. P. Holloway

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.

Rick and Sandy will resume work on EPA Portfolio access and distribution of data later in the Spring.

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

LED streetlight maintenance once the present Tanko contract ends midyear 2019. (see December 2018 minutes).

Rick will review Eversource bills for the town garage to determine whether we need to look further into extra costs due to short-term high demand.

Rick will investigate the status of lights on Hickory Hill and Waterhouse Lane.