



City of Middletown  
CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE

MINUTES  
JUNE 15, 2016

**Present**

Chair Jennifer Kleindienst, Dmitri D'Alesandro, Councilman Gerry Daley, Augie DeFrance, Audrey J. Scotti

**Absent**

Larry Chatfield, John Hall, Councilwoman Deborah Kleckowski, Jeff Pugliese

**Also Present**

Christopher M. Holden, PE, Staff, Michael Harris – Energy Coordinator

**1. Chair Opens Meeting**

The meeting opened at 7:15 P.M. at Indian Hill Cemetery.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Augie DeFrance moved approval of the minutes for the June 15, 2016, seconded by Gerry Daley, approved unanimously.

**3. Public Comment**

There were no members of the public present for comment.

**4. Energy Coordinator's Report – Michael Harris**

The requested changes to the Higby proposal by Greenskies were accepted. An updated PPA is expected.

The Doosan Fuel Cell agreement/performance met the requirements. The Superintendent of schools was authorized by the BOE to move forward with this project.

A motion was made by Augie DeFrance and seconded by Jennifer Kleindienst to support/recommend that the Doosan fuel cell project move forward. Some discussion took place with Michael Harris stating that he submitted a bid to the LREC program, with possible additional savings of \$86,00.00. Motion passed unanimously.

Benchmarking – working on evaluating other mechanical contractors, and evaluating Honeywell. The Russell library still has two years left on their contract with Honeywell and do not want to change at this point. The Schools were the first City Agency to go with Honeywell. There was a thought that the contract with Honeywell included a proprietary requirement, but there is not. The Police Department no longer uses Honeywell as their contractor.

There is an opportunity with a solar project being implemented by CT Green Bank. The City was approached by CTEC Solar. The City, based on the fact they are a municipality can take advantage of virtual net metering. This could save \$1,000,000.00 over 20 years. Michael Harris can provide the CETF with a copy of the contract if requested.

## **5. Proposed Task Force Implementation Process**

Jennifer Kleindienst proposed that the CETF implement a decision making process to move items along. This would include introducing the proposal/idea at one meeting and then after discussion is complete, a vote is scheduled so that items can move forward.

## **6. Old Business**

### **A. Home Energy Solutions**

The letter is to be sent out shortly. It was suggested that the banner, located in the DPW, be put up across Main Street for additional exposure. Cathy Duncan will need to be contacted. So far approximately \$35,000.00 has been raised over four years for the tree fund.

### **B. Middletown Energy Plan**

It was suggested that a sub-committee be established. No action at this time.

### **C. Solarize vs. Direct Energy Solar program discussion**

Solarize is run by Smart Power and provides education/workshops to homeowners. The installers will also provide a free consultation with homeowners. There was considerable additional discussion regarding this option.

As far as the legal concern brought up at the last meeting, the homeowner always has the choice of another installer, not required to use the Solarize installers. In addition, Solarize contractors will provide all methods of installation, including leasing or buying the equipment.

Councilman Gerry Daley moved that the City proceed with the Solarize program, pending approval of the Mayor. The motion was seconded by Audrey Scotti and passed unanimously.

## **7. New Business**

### **A. Membership**

There was some discussion regarding membership on the task force and terms. It is important that the members are active, not just a member in name. In addition Amy Albert was suggested as a new member that would be active.

Augie DeFrance reported that he was sworn in about two months ago.

Jennifer Kleindienst was voted in to have her term renewed.

**8. Other**

None

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 20, 2016, to be held in Room 208 of the Municipal Building at 12:30 PM.

Submitted for approval by:



Christopher M. Holden, PE  
Deputy Director of Public Works

