

**Sudbury, MA, Energy and Sustainability Committee  
Meeting Minutes March 11, 2015**

**OPENING:**

The March 11th, 2015 meeting of Sudbury's *Energy and Sustainability Committee* was opened by Chairman Bill Braun at 7:35pm in the Flynn conference room.

**ATTENDANCE:**

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Attending</b>
Rami Alwan	X
William Braun – Chairman, Energy and Sustainability Committee	X
Jim Cummings	
Edward Lewis	X
Joe Martino	
Robert Morrison	X
Kurt Reiss	X
Mark Sevier	X
<b>Facilities Director, Town of Sudbury</b>	
James Kelly	X
<b>Guests</b>	

**AGENDA:**

1. Updates:
  - A. GC Grant Projects
    - a. Streetlights
    - b. Fairbank Rooftop Unit
    - c. Library
    - d. LS Lights?
  - B. ESCO
  - C. Landfill Solar Credits
2. TM Articles
  - A. Stabilization Fund
  - B. Municipal Aggregation
3. Approval of meeting minutes
4. Other business?

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**1 Update - Green Communities Grant Projects**

Mass DOER awarded Sudbury \$250,000 in competitive Green Communities grants; they funded all four projects submitted with the maximum award.

A. LED Streetlights town wide for Sudbury

- a. Sudbury, along with several other towns, joined with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) to consolidate multiple towns LED streetlight requirements to drive more favorable volume pricing. Currently, the RFQ responses are being reviewed by the state Department of Energy Resources.

B. Fairbank Rooftop Unit

- a. The highly efficient rooftop energy recovery HVAC unit has been installed and will complete the final stages of commissioning and start-up when the snow is gone from the roof.

C. Library

- a. The library retro-commissioning project is in process. Due to the snow the rooftop units are currently not fully accessible.

D. LS Lights

- a. NSTAR increased the rebate awarded for the LSRHS parking lot and outdoor building lights; this allowed LS to also replace the lights leading to the football field with high efficiency LED's. All the lighting upgrades have been completed and the response to the energy saving lights has been very favorable. The DOER has approved the project and released the final funding for it.

These projects will reduce Sudbury's energy consumption while providing the town and LSRHS upgraded lighting, improved environment control at the library and will replace an aging and inefficient HVAC unit for the Fairbank multi-purpose room

**Update - ESCO**

The ESCO project is underway. A kick-off meeting was held with Ameresco, the energy committee, school and town personnel to review the project on January 27<sup>th</sup>.

Project review meetings are now being held every two weeks to finalize the project details including reviewing the 'open book' bids for each project component. Bid response has been favorable with high quality vendors and pricing slightly under or in line with the estimates.

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**Update - Landfill Solar Credits**

Operationally, the landfill array exceeded its design model in energy production during its first year of operation. Working with Eversource (formally NSTAR) on the allocation of the net metering credits has proven more challenging. A revised Schedule Z (the paperwork the utility uses to allocate the net metering credit amongst town and school electrical accounts) was submitted three months ago. To date it has not been implemented. Jim K. continues to follow-up with the utility on this. It should be noted this is only an accounting issue; Sudbury is receiving all the benefit of the net metering credits – just in a cumbersome accounting manner to deal with.

**2 TM Articles**

A majority of the meeting involved discussion of the Town Meeting articles the Energy Committee is involved with.

- a. **Stabilization Fund** – the Energy Stabilization Fund was authorized and partially funded at Sudbury’s May 2014 town meeting. The stabilization fund was set up to allow voters at town meeting to capture the savings from the landfill Solar Farm and allocate them for use on future energy savings projects. Any projects utilizing Energy Stabilization Funds need to be approved at Town Meeting

The Energy Committee unanimously voted to submit an article for approval at the 2015 annual Town Meeting to fund the Energy Savings Programs Stabilization Fund with savings from the landfill solar array.

Since any project utilizing stabilization funds needs to be approved at Town Meeting, our second discussion revolved around what projects, if any, should be presented to ask the voters to allocate funding for.

This was a spirited discussion trying to determine what projects could be fit into the limited funding available from the Energy Stabilization Fund. After review of several options, the committee decided it would be most beneficial to Sudbury to go thru one more funding round at the next annual Town Meeting and thus be able to tackle a larger, higher gain energy savings project.

- b. **Municipal Aggregation** - it was unanimously decided the Energy Committee should spearhead the effort to educate Sudbury residents on Community Choice Aggregation (CCA). The first step is to submit a warrant article for the 2015 annual Town Meeting to get approval to start the process to potentially offer CCA for Sudbury residents.

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Rami volunteered to be the lead for this effort assisted by the rest of the committee.

Jim K. drafted the warrant article for town authorization utilizing established legal language recommended by MA DPU. The article and an overview of community choice residential aggregation will be reviewed with FinCom and the BOS prior to the town meeting.

**3 Approval of meeting minutes**

Minutes from the January 21st Energy Committee meeting were unanimously approved.

**4 Other business?**

The Energy Committee's 2014 annual report was submitted for inclusion in the town's annual report.

The Energy Committee was approached to see if Sudbury would be interested in participating in a Solarize 2 like program to encourage volume purchase pricing of solar arrays. The vision of this program is to potentially allow non-profits to participate, although currently the program does not have a Government entity as a driving force administering the program.

Bob M. volunteered to investigate further and report back to the committee.

**Scheduled Energy Committee Meetings:** (DPW Building conference room - 7:30 p.m.)

- April 22<sup>th</sup>, 2015
- May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015
- June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015

**Adjournment:** The Energy Committee meeting was adjourned at 10:12pm.

Minutes submitted by: Edward Lewis, March 16, 2015.