

**Sudbury, MA, Energy and Sustainability Committee
Meeting Minutes April 12, 2018**

OPENING:

The April 12th, 2018 meeting of Sudbury’s *Energy and Sustainability Committee* was opened at 6:10pm at the DPW Building conference room.

ATTENDANCE:

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

AGENDA:

1. Solarize Initiative Update
2. Green Community Grant Update
3. Municipal Aggregation Update
4. Green Community Annual Report
5. Approval of meeting minutes
6. Other business?

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1) Solarize Initiative Update:

The Sudbury/Lincoln/Wayland Solarize Mass 2017 program has closed. It was a very successful program with 80 PV and Solar thermal systems contracted for.

The contracted PV systems exceed 400 kW.

The Committee heartily thanks Bob Morrison for his hard work to make this program successful.

This program included a Solar Coach stipend and money for marketing the program, Mr. Morrison declined the stipend and there was some balance left from the marketing budget. A motion was made to reallocate all remaining Solarize funds to marketing the Community Choice Aggregation program's 100% green option. The 100% green option drives the deployment of local renewable energy projects such as solar.

This motion was seconded and all were in favor.

ACTION: Bob Morrison to contact the MASS CEC (Solarize Program managers) to confirm the alternate use of these funds is acceptable to the State.

2) Green Community Grant Update:

The Energy Committee had requested, and was awarded, \$250,000 in Green Community Competitive Grant funding for a robust set of high gain energy efficiency / sustainability projects.

In addition to the grant, utility incentives provided another \$66,000 and the Committee elected to utilize \$39,000 in Town support to be provided from the Energy Savings Revolving Fund using the proceeds from the Landfill Solar Array.

These projects will reduce Sudbury's Municipal electric, natural gas and gasoline consumption to a measureable degree. In all, they are estimated to reduce our town-wide Municipal energy usage and green house gas emissions by almost 1.6%.

Following are high level descriptions and statuses of the funded projects: (for complete project details see the minutes from 1 March 2017)

- a. Interior LED lighting upgrades for Loring, Curtis, Haynes, Nixon, Noyes, Atkinson and LSRHS have been completed and have received positive feedback.
- b. Refrigeration improvements for Curtis and Noyes school cafeterias have been implemented.
- c. Weatherization and air sealing for Curtis & Noyes have been completed.

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- d. A Ford Focus Electric Vehicle (EV) for the Town Building Inspections department has been delivered and the public charging station has been completed and is operational at the DPW. Positive feedback from Town staff, and residents, has been received.
- e. Goodnow Library EMS / Controls Upgrade – this is a complex project, and as it was being evaluated on-site additional issues were uncovered that needed to be rectified to maintain and increase HVAC operational efficiency. The entire project was bid, all bids were fully vetted and the low bidder was recommended to the Committee for endorsement.

The consensus was the project is well thought out, intelligently designed, will save energy and will provide better environmental control for the Library.

The Committee voted unanimously to provide a recommendation to the Town Manager to accept the low bid proposal and to provide the expanded scope funding required from the Energy Savings Revolving Fund using the proceeds from the Landfill Solar Array.

The Library project is underway.

3) Municipal Aggregation Agreement:

Sudbury, along with Arlington and Somerville participated in the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) collective competitive procurement for purchasing residential electrical power under an aggregation plan.

The MAPC committee chose Good Energy as the Aggregation Consultant as they were the most advantageous bidder in terms of technical quality and competence, experience and pricing.

At Town Meeting Sudbury residents approved going forward to offer the aggregation plan for electrical supply to the town households and small businesses.

A Department of Public Utilities (Mass DPU) hearing was held where Mass State approval for Sudbury, Arlington, Somerville and Winchester’s residential aggregation programs was granted.

After the DPU approved was obtained, Good Energy, on behalf of Sudbury, went out to bid for potential Municipal Aggregation contracts.

Multiple responses for various contract durations were received. The Committee discussed and unanimously agreed that Dynegy offered the most competitive overall rate structure, terms, and inclusion of locally sourced green energy. Dynegy was also the Aggregation Consultant’s recommendation.

Dynegy responded with (duration in months, price per kWh (supply only) and percentage of Green Power in the supply.)

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Duration (months)	17	28	29	36
Price per kWh – 12%	\$0.10923	\$0.10644	\$0.10648	\$0.10624
Price per kWh – 17%	\$0.11048	\$0.10769	\$0.10773	\$0.10749
Price per kWh – 100%	\$0.13423	\$0.13144	\$0.13148	\$0.13124

For reference – Eversource electrical supply is 12% green power (by State Law) and was priced at \$0.10759/kWh for July thru December 2017 and is \$0.13157 for January thru June 2018. By State law Eversource reprices electrical supply every six months.

Under Community Choice Aggregation several options were offered to our residents. The 36 month 17% green energy was selected as the default option.

This default option gives residents electrical supply with a significantly higher green power component (the additional 5% green power is comprised of Class 1 RECs (which drive increased green power generation in New England)), price stability, along with a price that is less expensive than the July 2017 thru June 2018 Eversource rates.

Additionally, residents were offered an opt-down option, with only the State mandated 12% green energy, at a lower rate and an opt-up 100% green energy option at a slightly higher rate.

Significant community outreach to inform residents about the program was done, this included public meetings along with a descriptive postcard mailed to each resident.

The Municipal Aggregation program is optional, each household was given a chance to not start under the Aggregation and those who are participating can opt out at any point penalty free.

The program has been well received with only a handful of residents opting-out.

The Municipal Aggregation has saved residents money and has decreased Sudbury’s carbon footprint.

4) Green Community Annual Report

As a designated Green Community Sudbury is required to provide an Annual Report to the Department of Energy Resources that details all Municipal and School buildings energy use, Municipal vehicle gasoline and diesel fuel consumption, changes to our Municipal Vehicle fleet, details on buildings constructed under the Stretch Code, ongoing and future energy conservation projects and production at Town solar arrays.

The Green Communities Annual Report was completed and submitted before the deadline, the committee heartily thanks Kurt and Jim for their hard work.

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As mentioned in other business – Mr. Reiss has moved from Sudbury and will no longer be with the Committee. This was discussed and Joe Martino has volunteered to take on the Green Community Annual Report.

Kurt has agreed to work with Joe to transition and also has agreed to come to a future meeting to review the Town’s dataset.

5) Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Minutes from the February 22nd meeting were approved.

6) Other Business?

Kurt Reiss has moved out of Sudbury and has reluctantly resigned from the Committee. The Committee and Town heartily thank Kurt for his dedication to this committee and his hard work on a variety of projects including assuming ownership of the Green Communities annual report. Kurt will be missed from the Committee and we wish him well.

Bill Braun has also announced his intention to leave the Committee due to new work commitments which involve extended travel away from Sudbury. Bill has been Chairman of the Committee since its inception and has guided the Committee thru its multiple successes in greening the Town and saving taxpayer money. Bill’s extraordinary work on the first in the state solar array on our closed and capped landfill was truly above and beyond and it alone has been saving the Town about \$150,000 annually.

Bill’s institutional knowledge of the Town and his dedication the Energy Committee will be missed. The Committee and the Town thank him for his dedication and wish him well in all future endeavors.

Jim Kelly, Sudbury resident, has stated his intent to apply for membership on the Committee. Jim’s help in his previous position, as the Town’s Building Inspector then Facilities Director, was invaluable to the Energy Committee’s mission and we are thankful to retain the benefits of his skill set and institutional knowledge.

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The Committee discussed electing a new Chairman and some alternatives were proposed. Specifically the idea of a floating Chairmanship was discussed. This would entail revolving the Chairmanship thru the membership perhaps on 3 month time periods. There was also interest in nominating Mr. Kelly, who has also been with the Committee from the start, in his positions as the Town's Building Inspector and Facilities Director, after his application to the Committee has been processed.

The Chair discussion was tabled to a future meeting.

The Committee will review vacancies with the Town and request they be posted for volunteers.

Scheduled Energy Committee Meetings: (DPW Building conference room)

The public is welcome at all meetings.

June 20th at 6:00pm

July 18th at 6:00pm

August 15th at 6:00pm

Adjournment: The Energy Committee meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Edward Lewis, May 27, 2018