

**Sudbury, MA, Energy and Sustainability Committee
Meeting Minutes March 4th, 2020**

OPENING:

The March 4th, 2020 meeting of Sudbury's *Energy and Sustainability Committee* was opened at 6: pm at the DPW Building conference room.

ATTENDANCE:

Committee Members	Attending
Rami Alwan - Chairman, Energy and Sustainability Committee	X
Gary Bean	X
Jim Cummings	X
Edward Lewis	7:00
Joe Martino	6:40
Mark Sevier	X
Facilities Director, Town of Sudbury	
William Barletta	X
Guests	
Dalton Kimball – Guardian Energy	X
Ken Nathanson	x

AGENDA:

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes
2. Guardian Energy Report - Dalton Kimball
3. Green Communities Application
4. Energy Aggregation Renewal - Next Steps
5. Town Report Submission
6. Update on Fairbanks Project
7. Select Power Option PPA Project
8. Future of Electric Chargers in Sudbury – Move toward a bylaw
9. Could Corona Virus Affect Us?

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1) Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Minutes from the February 12th, 2020 meeting were approved????

2) Guardian Energy report - Dalton Kimball

Previously Guardian Energy Management had done some evaluations of Town buildings to determine potential energy saving projects. Several of these projects have already been done by Guardian under Green Community grants and Guardian had contacted Facilities Director Barletta to determine interest in pursuing additional projects.

Guardian conducted another couple site visits to research high gain projects including the potential replacement / upgrade of the Library boiler plant and installing Variable Frequency Drives (VFD's) on some HVAC equipment.

Dalton Kimball attended our meeting to review projects that may have the potential to be submitted for the Green Communities Competitive Grant funding.

Green Communities Grant Extended to 3/27
Proposal Approved

3) Green Communities application

It is anticipated that Guardian Energy will provide details on several projects to be vetted by the Committee and potentially submitted during the upcoming cycle of Green Community Competitive grants.

Dalton Kimball will look and see what other grant opportunities could be available.

4) Energy aggregation next steps

The Town-wide Electricity Aggregation contract is up for renewal in August. The Energy Committee guides the bidding specifications for our Aggregation Consultant.

The Committee, after significant resident input, agrees the default option should be 100% renewable energy. However, the determination needs to be made regarding the split between MA Class 1 REC's (local 100% renewable energy but expensive) vs. Texas wind (renewable wind energy – not local but also 100% green and inexpensive) vs. the price charged for the default option. Regardless – 100% renewable energy supply for the Town Aggregation will yield a very significant reduction in Sudbury's carbon footprint.

A bidding strategy discussed at the last meeting would be to get a base bid with the State mandated renewable content (currently 16%) along with the pricing on a per percentage basis to add in MA Class 1's or Texas wind REC's. The length of the contract is also part

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of the bid package. A suggestion to make the next contract expire during the Eversource winter rates (Jan – June) was well received and will be incorporated in the bid.

ACTION PLAN:

- Meet with Good Energy in April to discuss/define bid strategy – 4/1
- Go for indicative pricing bids in May – determine default option
- Meet / brief Select Board in June
- Go for and secure final bids
- New program contract starts with September meter reads

5) **Town Report Submission** – Ed Lewis will complete this.

6) **Update on Fairbank project**

Facilities Director Barletta gave the Committee a brief overview of the Fairbank project, and will provide a more detailed review / discussion targeted for our April meeting. He wishes to get Committee input on Sustainability and Energy Efficiency issues and it should be noted the Committee has been asked to look at solar deployment on the new / remodeled building.

Invited to present 6:45p 4/1

7) **Solect Energy – Potential Sudbury Solar PPAs**

Solect Energy is a local company that went thru an exhaustive competitive RFP process with the State to, partnered with PowerOptions, provide solar arrays to Municipalities, Schools, State agencies, Colleges and not for profits with pre-negotiated PPA's (Power Purchase Agreements). Due to the volume purchasing, these PPA's have attractive Terms and Conditions, yielding a cost structure that allows low PPA rates, while saving the Town the expense and time of conducting an independent procurement.

Solect Energy, working with Facilities Director Barletta, has taken a first pass look at several Sudbury properties that appear to be suitable for rooftop solar array deployment. They evaluated the DPW building, and the Haynes, Loring, Noyes, Curtis and Nixon schools. Deployment of even some of these arrays would significantly increase the solar in Town and reduce energy costs for a 20 year term.

Solect Energy will work with Director Barletta to refine the models, taking into account roof age, condition and structural factors to determine the potential highest gain arrays.

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The Committee will review these in depth and if they appear to be in Sudbury's best interest will move to bring them forward to the Select Board for approval.

It is expected if approved by the Select Board this will need to be approved at Town Meeting to go forward.

Will be looked at our 4/10 Mtg

8) Future of Electric Chargers in Sudbury

Significant, spirited discussion revolved around the potential implementation of an EV charging station at the Flynn Building. Joe M. provided information on charging stations deployed by several surrounding towns.

The general consensus is that it does benefit Sudbury residents and visitors to have charging available, however, it does not make sense for Sudbury to subsidize charging. A discussion point was made to investigate Sudbury installing and maintaining the charger, utilizing the Energy Revolving Fund, but to charge people utilizing it for the cost of the electricity. Thus Sudbury would provide infrastructure to help the advancement of electrification of public and municipal transportation but would be revenue neutral on the actual charging cost.

Joe Martino will follow up on this issue.

9) Dates for next meetings:

Scheduled Energy Committee Meetings: (DPW Building conference room)

The public is welcome at all meetings.

April 1st at 6:00PM

April 10th, at 6:00PM

May 20th, at 6:00PM

Adjournment: The Energy Committee meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Minutes submitted by: Rami Alwan 7, April 2020