

**Clean Energy Task Force**  
**Meeting Minutes**

Date: July 16, 2014

Location: City of Middletown  
Municipal Building  
Room 208

Re: City of Middletown  
Clean Energy Task Force  
Meeting No. 102

Attendees: Tom Serra  
David Bauer  
Jennifer Kleindienst  
Audrey J. Scotti  
Larry Chatfield  
Augie DeFrance  
John Hall  
Dmitri D'Alessandro  
Peter Staye

Absent: Jeff Pugliese

Bob Dobmeier, Staff

Tina Gomes, Staff

The meeting opened at 12:35 P.M. The minutes for the June 18, 2014 Clean Energy Task Force meeting were approved unanimously, with Dmitri D'Alessandro and Peter Staye not present for this vote.

John Hall gave an update on the projects that he has been working on:

- Celtic Energy has been issued the contract and purchase order to start work on the Police Department study, and they should be starting shortly.
- The streetlight purchase from CL&P is almost complete. The maintenance contract for the City's electrical contractor has been signed and ready to go. A meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, July 17<sup>th</sup> with CL&P to get last minute instructions and hopefully obtain the final purchase price to the City. Some last minute small details have been holding up the progress, which was expected to be completed by July 1, 2014.
- The window film study, for City Hall should begin within the next few weeks. The approximate cost is \$1,000, which will be refunded if the project goes forward. In addition to this work on the west side windows, we will be looking at safety film to be installed on the council chamber and Room 208 windows.
- The two vendors for the Home Energy Solutions audits will be canvassing more residents to take part in this program. They will have a table/booth set up at the upcoming Open Air Market at Wadsworth Mansion on Sunday August 24<sup>th</sup> and John asked for volunteers to help at the booth that day.

David Bauer noted that the task force should have input in the Greenskies proposal to install solar panels at the landfill. Discussion took place as to the details that are known about this project that originated from the Planning Office and Economic Development Commission. In general David noted that the task force should get involved in all City boards and commissions who are contemplating energy improvements for their facilities.

A discussion took place concerning the topic of Geothermal Wells and their applications for Middletown. Dmitri D'Alessandro gave an update on the project that he is working on in the north end of downtown, near his frame shop, with potential engineers and well drillers. Dimitri noted that the capital costs are high for this type of work and thus the return on investment for these projects is relatively long. There are a lot of variables to consider for this type of project, and payback is better when the customer currently uses oil or electricity to heat their facility; versus gas. The task force recommended asking representatives from Advanced Energy Group to revisit for a future meeting to discuss the possibilities of such a project in Middletown. They are currently working for the Meriden Housing Authority at the Yale Acres Housing Complex and geo-district. Bob Dobmeier will check in with City of Meriden officials to see how that project is progressing from their perspective.

Jennifer Kleindienst opened discussion on the City's Energy Plan. She suggested that a thorough review should be undertaken by the task force for necessary updates to the plan, which was developed in 2009. Bob Dobmeier and John Hall will look through the individual sections of the plan to update the task force on items that have been done, and others that still need to be done.

Larry Chatfield reported that he attended the most recent Downtown Chamber Meeting on July 10<sup>th</sup> to further discuss the door stickers. He and Jeff Pugliese will work on a draft letter to eventually be distributed at a future chamber meeting to help the cause.

Jennifer Kleindienst asked the task force whether they thought it would be a good idea to take part in the newest round of Solarize CT. The deadline to apply is the end of July, which is a tight timeframe to get this program approved locally. John Hall explained that in the past, the City administration wasn't supportive on the idea of endorsing a single vendor for this program, which makes it more reasonably priced for the property owner. It was noted that the City could take on this responsibility, but a lot of legwork would be required, especially if multiple solar contractors were involved. John Hall also noted that two Middletown based vendors will be installing residential solar units and these vendors may be a good place to start this program locally.

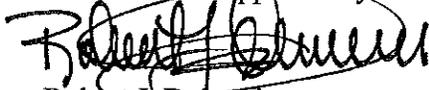
John Hall noted that the Innovations Grant that was received back in 2006, still has approximately \$1,400 left in the fund for one more project. He is working with CEFIA on an appropriate grant eligible project to close this phase of their previous funding out.

Bob Dobmeier mentioned that all future meeting minutes will be posted on the City's website, by the Town Clerk, under the Boards and Commissions section.

In other business, it was noted that it would be a good idea to have a representative from the Board of Education, as we did with Ken Jackson, in the past. As they are currently on summer hiatus, this subject will be brought up with BOE administrators in the fall.

The meeting ended at 2:00 P.M. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 20, 2014, to be held at the Municipal Building at 12:30 PM..

Submitted for approval by:



Robert J. Dobmeier

Dep. Director of Public Works