

Minutes
Joint Green Efforts Committee
October 6, 2015
***COUNCIL CHAMBERS ***
6:30 p.m.

Present:

In attendance:

John Vibert, Chair
Betty DaCruz
Katy Perry
John Hinze

Erica Robertson, Assistant Town Manager

Ali Jackman, Eversource Energy
Stephanie Rogers, Eversource Energy
Kevin Witkos, Eversource Energy
Kim Lynch (resident)

- A. Call to Order.
- B. Public Comment
Kim Lynch, a resident of Farmington expressed her interest in the Clean Energies Committee.
- C. To Approve the Following Minutes.
The Green Efforts Committee meeting dated September 1, 2015 was approved as amended (Hinze/Perry).
- D. Old Business.
 - 1. Unionville Day
The Committee received a straw poll survey from Unionville Day. Results indicated that the most popular initiatives are the annual clean up day and initiatives regarding recycling and waste reduction.
 - 2. Discuss goals and future initiatives
 - a. **Annual Clean Up Day**
 - b. **Fulfill Community Pledge**
 - c. **Outdoor lighting**-energy efficient project at Town and School facilities
 - d. Solarize municipal buildings- to be completed after the outdoor lighting project is complete.
 - e. Communications- Facebook, EDC newsletter, Town webpage, Town newsletter, and Friday Folders will be used to increase awareness and provide updates
 - f. Compost bins- The Committee is looking to purchase approximately 100 small, outdoor perforated barrels. The Town would take orders for residents interested in purchasing compost bins and sell at cost. The Committee will research a grant to fund this program.

Note: Initiatives in bold are top priorities for The Committee

- E. New Business
 - 1. Presentation/Discussion – Clean Energy Communities

- a. Alison Jackman and Stephanie Rogers from Eversource Energy presented to the group regarding Clean Energy Communities Program
 - b. In 2013 the Town of Farmington committed to the Clean Energies Program to reduce energy consumption 20% by 2018, and that 20% of municipal building electricity will be from clean, renewable sources by 2018
 - c. Points for the Town are accumulated by participation in energy CT programs
 - d. Municipal Bench Marking: Technical Assistance Initiative
 - i. A letter of commitment for the Municipal Bench Marking: Technical Assistance Initiative was received from the Eversource representatives.
 - ii. In order to comply with the Municipal Bench Marking Initiative, the Town needs to start benchmarking energy use through the online Energy Star Portfolio. A baseline year must be established and historical energy usage for all municipal buildings is required (electricity, natural gas, propane, oil, renewable energy systems, co-generations, etc.).
 - iii. Eversource has the ability to create a customized Municipal Action Plan (MAP) which is a document that describes the progress to date and provides information on desired energy efficiency or renewable projects for Farmington to pursue. The Committee needs to discuss if participation in this is desired.
 - iv. Stephanie Rogers from Eversource Energy is our support person for the benchmarking process.
2. Steve Gibson is our new energy engineer; he can help the Committee with planning for future projects.
 3. The Energize CT Center in North Haven (exit 9 off I91) is free to the public and provides a \$200 school bus credit for school groups.

F. Other Business

At the next meeting all committee members were asked to come prepared with a topic/initiative of their choice to discuss.

G. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

cc: Paula Ray, Town Clerk to post
Deb Bull – by e-mail for the Web
Kathy Greider, Superintendent of Schools
Mary Grace Reed, Board of Education
Mary Paganini, Administrative Assistant