

FIFTEEN ROPE FERRY ROAD
WATERFORD, CT 06385-2886



PHONE: 860-442-0553
www.waterfordct.org

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Energy Task Force Minutes — Special Meeting April 10, 2023

Members present: Kevin Girard (RTM), Mary Childs (RTM), David Peabody (BOF), Ivan Kuvalanka (elector), Ursula Moreshead (elector)

Members absent: Chris Jones (BoE), BoS open position,

- 1., 2. Call to Order/Roll Call:** With a quorum established, the meeting of the Energy Task Force (ETF) was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair Kevin Girard.
- 3. Public Comments:** Representative Nick Gauthier asked if public comments could be accepted after the presentation.
- 4. Approval of 3/20/23 meeting minutes:** Motion by Peabody, second by Moreshead to approve the 3/20/2023 minutes as presented. Voice vote: passed,
- 5. Review and discussion of stated charge:** Group discussed the process over the past 5 meetings. Introduced Jack Cunningham, resident of Waterford and contractor with Eversource. Areas for realization of efficiencies were highlighted, including: lighting, steam traps, heat pumps, variable frequency drives, building management systems, weatherization, and duct sealing.

Lighting: three tiers for lighting options. Consider switching all Town buildings to LED lighting utilizing an approved contractor or purchasing the materials and the Town can complete the work. It was mentioned that the Fire Stations might qualify for the small business energy program.

Solar: Typically Towns utilize a Power Purchasing Agreement. Considering the three options for placement of panels from most cost effective to least would be rooftops, solar fields on land, and canopy. An area that might be ideal would be the new section of roof at the high school. With solar the Town would potentially receive a Renewable Energy Credit. This area would be the easiest to initiate, realize the largest energy savings, and have the quickest payback.

EV (Electric Vehicle) Program: Tier I (fast chargers) program is accepting applications from May to June and is only open to 28 applicants. Tier II program is accepting applications currently. One to two port options were discussed and locations where breakers are

available are the most cost effective. (Range from \$8,000 for one port up to \$20,000 for two ports.) The Town could set the price for energy use. Carbon Credits are paid quarterly. Upcoming program for locations set within 1 mile from a Federal highway with 80% off the cost of installing. Areas to consider could be: school parking lots, Town Hall, the library, Community/Senior Center, Municipal Complex, Recreation and Parks properties (beaches, playgrounds, ball fields).

Public Comments made by Representative Denbeck (RTM), Representative Gauthier (RTM), and Representative Larder (RTM)

6. New Business: Group discussion on next steps:

At our next meeting, we will need to draft a report for the June meeting of the RTM. The Energy Task Force members will review our notes up to this point and define areas to propose energy efficiencies. Additional next steps were discussed.

7. Adjournment: Motion made by Peabody, seconded by Kovalanka, Vote unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm

Submitted by Mary Childs, ETF Secretary