



TOWN OF VERNON

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ENERGY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD
14 Park Place, Third Floor, Vernon, Connecticut
APPROVED - SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

August 10, 2015
6:30 PM

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - A meeting of the Energy Improvement District Board was called to order by Chairman Jeffrey Boulrice at 6:35 pm. Members also present: Tom Aitkin, Elizabeth Landry. Jason Ellis entered the meeting at 6:37 pm. Members not present: Elmar Alikhanov. Also in attendance was staff liaison Steve Boske, WPCA, Town Administrator John Ward, and Recording Secretary Leslie Campolongo.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - Mr. Boulrice motioned to clarify the minutes of April 27, 2015 to read that the Bright Ideas Grant application should be used for a Benchmarking Study. Motion was seconded by Mr. Aitkin. Motion passed 3-0 with 1 abstention by Ms. Landry.

3. **PENDING BUSINESS**
 - i. **Lode Star** – Mr. Ward provided an update to the Board on the LodeStar Energy project, which was approved by the Council at its last meeting. A letter of intent has been signed and the contract is being negotiated. Estimated completion of Virtual Net Metering Credit project is expected to be completed within 4 to 6 months. Discussion took place regarding the estimated cost savings.

 - ii. **CCM Street Lighting** - Mr. Ward provided and update to the Board on the Streetlight project which was presented to the Council during the past budget season. \$860,000 has been budgeted to purchase streetlights from Eversource and the current lights will be retro-fitted with LED lighting. Cost savings is anticipated at \$240,000/year. Tanko Lighting is auditing our streetlights at present. Project will go back to Council for approval when audit is complete.

Mr. Ward also referenced the August 10, 2015 Hartford Courant article titled "Bright Idea: Streetlights with Wi-Fi". Board was given copies of the article, which is included in the 5. **INFORMATION** section of the minutes.

- iii. **Bright Ideas Grant** – Mr. Boulrice expressed that the Benchmarking grant expired in May 2015. He believes this portion of the grant will be available again sometime in 2016. Vernon currently has 170 Total Energy Efficiency Points – making it available for \$10,000 in Bright Ideas funding. Discussion took place regarding the type of project that would best make use of the funds. Topics included outside air-flow at the cafeteria, changing/reprogramming the sequence controls in buildings.

Mr. Boske informed the Board of the upgrades that are planned for the Water Pollution Control facility, which include LED lights in buildings, boiler replacements, and including processes that assist with phosphorus and nitrogen removal.

Mr. Ward advised the Board that the Water Pollution Control facility is the town's largest consumer of electricity. Mr. Aitkin expressed interest in touring the facility. Ms. Campolongo will arrange a time for EIDB members to tour the plant.

Discussion took place. Motion made by Mr. Boulrice to use \$10,000 in Bright Ideas grant to conduct benchmarking study at the Water Pollution Control Plant. Motion seconded by Mr. Aitkin. Motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Boulrice will contact Shelton WPCA regarding their energy-benchmarking consultant and request their attendance at the next EIDB meeting.

- iv. **CT Clean Energy Community Pledge**- no discussion took place.

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

- i. **Discussion of C2E2 student intern projects** – Mr. Ward advised the Board that a letter had been sent to Dr. Singh at UConn Center for Clean Energy Engineering (Included in 5. INFORMATION)
- ii. **Amerbelle Hydrology Survey** – Mr. Ward informed the Board that GZAGeoEnvironmental has been contracted by the Town to study the flow of the Hockanum River as it traverses through the sluiceway of the Amerbelle site. Results of the survey should be completed in 2 weeks.

Discussions took place regarding UConn C2E2 and included working with interested UConn Energy Engineering graduate students/research during the RFP process.

- iii. Discussion took place regarding exchange of ideas with other municipalities, and promoting the C-PACE program to local businesses. Discussion also took place about promoting the energy reduction efforts made by the Town and opportunities for

energy savings for residents. Ideas suggested included an article in the Events Magazine, having C-Pace at the SeniorHood Fair and the Spring Health Fair and use of Press Releases.

Mr. Boulrice will draft an article tentatively called "Energy Corner" and submit to Mr. Ward.

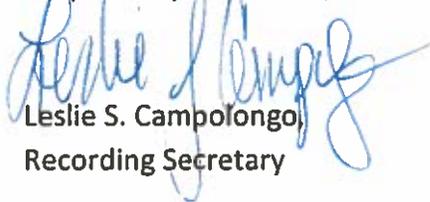
5. **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- i. "Bright Idea: Streetlights with Wi-Fi" (August 10, 2015 Hartford Courant)
- ii. Letter to Dr. Prabhakar Singh, Director for Center for Clean Energy at UConn dated August 7, 2015.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Boulrice and seconded by Mr. Aitkin. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting concluded at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


Leslie S. Campolongo
Recording Secretary