



TOWN OF VERNON

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**ENERGY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**
14 Park Place, 3rd Floor Town Hall
September 24, 2018 at 5:45 PM

Daniel A. Champagne
Mayor
Michael J. Purcaro
Town Administrator
Dawn R. Maselek
Assistant Town Administrator

1. **CALL TO ORDER** –The special meeting of the Energy Improvement District Board was called to order by Chairman Jeffrey Boulrice. Members in attendance: Elizabeth Landry and Tom Aitkin. Mark Summers entered the meeting at 5:48 pm and Jason Ellis entered the meeting at 5:50 pm. Also in attendance was Michael J. Purcaro, Town Administrator, Steve Boske, Assistant Director, Water Pollution Control Facility and Leslie Campolongo, Recording Secretary.

2. **DISCUSSION OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE ENERGY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BOARD (EIDB)**
To introduce and encourage energy savings measures that will provide cost savings for the town, its residents, and its businesses.

3. **PRESENTATIONS**

- a. **Homestead Fuel Home Energy Audit** – Mr. Jeff Gerbers and Ms. Sonia Cruz of Homestead Fuel explained the process of conducting a Home Efficiency Energy audit. The presentation began at 5:53 pm and concluded at 6:21pm.

Discussion took place.

ACTION: Mr. Boulrice motioned that Administration issue a Request for Information (RFI) to determine other companies that conduct home energy audits. The RFI should include what core offerings the company provides, and what benefit would be offered to our residents and the town, if applicable. Mr. Summers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- b. **WPCA Facility Upgrade update** - Mr. Boske provided an update on the project, which has reached 70% design completion. Public tours have been conducted of the plant as part of community outreach.

4. **BUSINESS**

- a. **Approval of Minutes** - Motion made by Chairman Boulrice to approve the minutes from May 21, 2018. Motion seconded by Ms. Landry. Motion passed unanimously.

- b. **Solarize Vernon** – Mr. Boulrice provided an update on the Solarize Vernon Program, which has been extended until October 15, 2018. Thus far, the town has earned a 5 kW solar array for use on a town building, and Earthlight will donate \$800. to KidSafe as part of this program.
- c. **Ordinance 292** – Discussion took place regarding the expiry of this ordinance. The topic will remain on the Agenda for further discussion.
- d. **Town Building Utility Usage** – The board reviewed the information provided by the Public Works Department. For follow-up: 1) Are the schools and the WPCF included on this list? The RHS tennis courts are listed as intense consumers of electric and gas, is this correct?

ACTION:

Mr. Aitkin moved that Administration request that the Utility reports be provided to the EIDB on a quarterly basis, and that a column for square footage of buildings be added so that BTU's can be calculated. "Mr. Ellis seconded that motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Campolongo will contact Public Works to arrange for the answers to these questions.

- e. **Energize CT participation** – Home energy solutions. Topic was discussed earlier in the meeting.
- f. **Waste Zero /Simple Recycling** –Mr. Purcaro provided a preliminary overview of the program, which will require Town Council authorization.

ACTION:

Mr. Boulrice motioned that the Energy Improvement District Board offer its support of the Waste Zero/Simple Recycling program to improve recycling in Vernon. Mr. Summers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- g. **Sustainable CT** – Mr. Boulrice provided a brief update on the program. Sixty-two (62) towns now participate in the program, with over 600 sustainable actions completed. He will be attending a conference on October 22, 2018 at Eastern Connecticut State University and will provide an update to the Board at the next meeting.
- h. **Upcoming events** – Discussion took place. Mr. Purcaro offered that Social Services Director Allison Maynard attend the next meeting to provide an overview/presentation on the town's Energy Assistance/Fuel Bank program. Ms. Campolongo will coordinate her attendance.

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- a. Town Council letter of reappointment of Mark Summers to the EIDB
- b. Town Council letter of reappointment of Thomas Aitkin to the EIDB

6. NEXT MEETING DATE

- a. Monday, November 26, 2018

7. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Boulrice motioned to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Aitkin seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Leslie S. Campolongo
Project Coordinator/Recording Secretary