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**ENERGY COMMISSION** 

TOWN HALL 238 Danbury Road Wilton, CT 06897

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Debra Thompson-Van
Richard Creeth
Co-Chairs
Peter Wrampe
Vice Chairman
Gil Bray
Patrice Gillespie
Bruce Hampson
Glenn Hemmerle
Gil Hollander
Philip Murphy

WILTON ENERGY COMMISSION
Meeting, Wednesday May 24th, 2017
Comstock Room 12
7:00 pm
Minutes

Members Present: Debra Thompson-Van, Richard Creeth, Peter Wrampe, Gil Bray (until 8:05pm), Patrice Gillespie, , Gil Hollander Members Absent:, Bruce Hampson (away in Colorado), Glenn Hemmerle, Philip Murphy

Town employees: Chris Burney (Facilities and Energy Management Director)

- 1) Richard called the meeting to order at 7:03pm.
- 2) Minutes The minutes of the April 26th regular meeting were amended by Deborah. The amendment removed the specific 30% target for HES audit penetration and simply suggested the Commission identify an appropriate realistic target. The amended minutes were approved by 5 to 0 with Gil Bray abstaining since he was not present. (Moved by Debra, seconded by Patrice).
- 3) Peter moved and Debra seconded to move item 9 Web site next on the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.
- 4) Web site Peter reported that the web site is becoming stale and requested input from the rest of the Commission particularly on WEC achievements in the last year.
- 5) Debra proposed, and Peter seconded a motion to combine items 2 (School Solar project update) and 3 (ZREC Application status) on the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
- 6) School Solar Project and ZREC Application status)
  - a) Chris showed the group drawings that had been developed by Lenape, Kingspan's contractor. Chris stated that he was impressed with the quality and professionalism of the drawings. Chris also discussed the overall status. Town Counsel has redlined the PPA and Chris said he would follow up with Town

- Counsel to try to expedite agreement on the PPA since it was critical that this get done as soon as possible. Richard noted that Town Counsel has cut out the guaranteed minimum power generation clause which the WEC had deemed important.
- b) Chris further reported that the Interconnection application is under development by Lenape. All information for Middlebrook and Miller Driscoll required to complete the solar design has been reviewed. The Electric has been validated, the equipment configuration of panels and inverters confirmed. There is some concern about the lead time for panels, but Kingspan has enough equipment in inventory to start the job.
- c) The rooftop for Miller Driscoll is 100% utilized for solar and no future ZRECs will be applied for.
- d) Middlebrook has enough rooftop to maximize the configuration (approx 238Kw system), but will require a portion of the solar equipment relocation later when reroofing commences. Further, Chris clarified that the costs for the solar panel movement should be included in the PPA price, not in the roofing bonded capital. There is no opportunity for further solar on Middlebrook and no future ZRECs will be applied for.
- e) Chris said he is engaging the BOE for the approval to install Solar on the Field House rooftop during school hours in the fall. His rational for challenging the current limit is that the noise from the rooftop will not affect classroom work as it's on the Field House. The reason for driving to a Fall 2017 installation is so that the WEC can apply for a Small ZREC in the Feb 2018 process. The Solar design team needs to confirm if there is ample available rooftop on the WHS Field House to hold another 100kw system. If so, the WEC/MHR need to apply for a Small ZREC in the Feb 2018 (final) cycle. In order to apply, the Medium ZREC (if awarded) will need to be successfully installed during the fall of 2017. After some discussion, Richard proposed and Peter seconded a motion authorizing Debra to bid for medium ZRECS at a price of \$110. Motion passed unanimously.
- f) Chris outlined the plans to create a document that would enable Kingspan to apply for the Interconnection application (time urgent) and the structural analysis. This document has been agreed by the town counsel and will be presented to Lynne on Tuesday.
- 7) Micro grids Debra suggested that the WEC form a Micro grid subcommittee to investigate the feasibility of developing a micro grid facility in Town. Chris suggested looking at the combined High School, Cider Mill, Comstock and Middle Brook complex. Gil Bray noted that a micro grid is something that the Economic Development Commission is keen to promote. Richard proposed and Peter seconded a motion to appoint Debra, Richard, Peter and Gil Bray to the subcommittee. Passed unanimously.
- 8) Peter proposed and Debra seconded a motion to add an item to the agenda to discuss the future role and structure of the Commission including the role of the vice chair. The motion passed 4 to 1 and a discussion ensued. It was agreed that the role of the

- vice chair was somewhat undefined particularly under the present structure with two co-chairs. It was also noted that Richard and Bruce will be term limited off the Commission after the August meeting. It was agreed to add an item to the agenda for the next meeting to discuss the future structure of the commission and identify the leadership roles. Chris stressed that it would be very important for all Commissioners to attend that meeting.
- 9) Gil Hollander update the Commission on his work on restarting the HES audit program. He will have an updated report for the next meeting.
- 10) Patrice gave an update on Wilton GoGreen. It was agreed that Peter would be the WEC representative on GoGreen replacing Richard since he will be leaving the Commission soon. Peter would also examine the three energy initiatives identified by the symposium WGG organized earlier this year and coordinate them with WEC initiatives.
- 11) Richard called the meeting to a close at 9:02pm.