

CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE MINUTES
SUBJECT TO APPROVAL
August 14, 2017
REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Commissioner Beinstein in the Room 103 of Simsbury Town Hall, with the following members present: Jim Ray, Susan Van Kleef, Mark Scully, and Bob Beinstein. It was noted that Commissioner Bill Butler had tendered his resignation from CETF effective August 4, 2017.

1. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MEETING ON JULY 10th, 2017 and JULY 25, 2017:

The minutes from the July 10th meeting were reviewed by all. Commissioner Van Kleef made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Scully seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion passed. The minutes from the July 25th meeting are being prepared by Commissioner Pynn and were not yet available for review.

2. PUBLIC AUDIENCE:

Commissioner Beinstein opened the floor for public audience.

Mr. Tom Roy, Simsbury Director of Public Works and Ms. Susan Moberg of VHB (environment consultant for the DeepWater Wind Tobacco Valley Solar (TVS) project) were in attendance.

Mr. Roy discussed the preparation for a ceremony in regard to the recently completed installation of the earned solar panel system on Simsbury High School. It was indicated that a time after school around 4:30 p.m. would be proposed with invited members from the Town of Simsbury (including the Board of Selectmen), the Simsbury Board of Education, the Simsbury School superintendent and staff, Connecticut Greenbank, Eversource and CETF. Also Simsbury SCTV and representatives from the Hartford Courant and The Valley Press will be invited for coverage of the event. After an agreed to date is finalized, Mr. Roy will draft the invitation to be sent out to be reviewed by various participants including CETF. Mr. Roy indicated that getting reports/visual display for the actual amount of solar energy/electricity being produced is still being worked. The goal will be to have a flat screen display available in a location so all can see the visual results and he is not sure if they have funded that. CETF indicated that they would provide the funds for a display if that is needed.

Commissioner Van Kleef indicated she had seen something about a possible solar application for the Simsbury Virginia Connolly residential complex and asked if Mr. Roy knew anything about it. Mr. Roy indicated he was not aware of it so Commissioner Van Kleef will research it further for any possible involvement by CETF.

Mr. Roy indicated that two possible Connecticut Zero-Emission Renewable Energy Credit (ZREC) projects are being investigated. One application would be at the Simsbury Public Works facility which would be in the form of a Power Purchase Agreement. Another application would be at Simsbury Farms which would be entered into the Connecticut ZREC auction program. He will keep CETF up to date as to the feasibility/progress of these initiatives.

Commissioner Ray asked about the solar installation status at the Simsbury Community Farm. Mr. Roy indicated that he understood it was installed, but had no further information. Commissioner Ray will get further information.

Commissioner Scully indicated that the plans for a Simsbury microgrid were still in the process of being developed with grant funding that had been obtained. Once the basic draft plan is available, he will coordinate it with the Town.

Ms. Moberg did not have any specific comments but did participate in a general discussion in regard to the process that is involved leading up to a Connecticut Siting Council. It was noted that the Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP), Connecticut Department of Agriculture and the Town of Simsbury all have requested party status to testify to the Siting Council. Ms. Moberg indicated that although there were requests to delay the round of meetings, the Siting Council is under a mandated schedule to complete the process within a limited time and it was expected that any extensions would be denied. The schedule will require a final ruling by December 26th. With no other comments or discussion for the public record, the public audience closed.

3. BRIGHT IDEA GRANT - DISCUSSION OF PLANS FOR SECOND GRANT:

A prior discussion considered a program to support home energy audits to include an infrared analysis for identification of air leaks and needed insulation. A general discussion about other uses included perhaps infrared cameras available for use by the public through the library, education initiatives related to energy conservation and

53 energy saving appliances/heat pumps and efforts in direct support of the 100% Simsbury Plan. Ideas in these regards
54 will be discussed at the next meeting.

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56 **4. HIGH SCHOOL SOLAR DEDICATION DISCUSSION:**

57 This was discussed during the Public Audience.

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59 **5. SMALL BUSINESS ENERGY ADVANTAGE PLANS/STATUS DISCUSSION:**

60 With Commissioner Butler's resignation, Commissioner Pynn has agreed to take over this program. As she was not
61 able to attend this meeting, this topic was tabled until the next meeting.

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63 **6. 100% SIMSBURY PLAN:**

64 Commissioner Scully had nothing further to report as the main effort now is related to putting together a microgrid
65 proposal.

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67 **7: DEEP WATER WIND SOLAR FARM DISCUSSION:**

68 With the prior submittal of the CETF report to the Simsbury Board of Selectman, no further discussion was necessary.

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70 **8. OPEN FORUM:**

71 No additional topics were discussed.

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73 **9. NEXT MEETING:**

74 The next regularly scheduled meeting is September 11th.

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76 **8. ADJOURNMENT:**

77 Commissioner Scully motioned to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by
78 Commissioner Van Kleef and unanimously approved.