

WINDHAM ENERGY COMMISSION

Minutes for Monday, February 22, 2016 Minutes

Windham Town Hall, 2nd floor Meeting Room, 979 Main Street, Willimantic, CT

Voting Members Present: Elizabeth Ostwald, Jean de Smet, Grace Adams, Richard Bloomer, and Corey Krohn [arrived 6:14]; **Voting Members Absent:** Tom Markland, Chris Mezzarone **Voting Members Excused:** None; **Staff Present:** James Finger, Town Planner; Dagmar Noll, Clerk; **Guests Present:** None; **Public Present:** None

1. **Call to order** - Chair de Smet called the meeting to order at 6:02pm

2. **Citizens & Delegations** - None.

3. **Review of Notes of January 12 and January 25, 2016**

The dates for all minutes referenced in the 1/25/2016 minutes should have a year date of 2016. E. Ostwald MOVED to accept the minutes of the 1/12/2016 meeting. D. Bloomer SECONDED. MOTION PASSED unanimously. C. Krohn MOVED to accept the minutes of the 1/25/2016 meeting. E. Ostwald SECONDED. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

4. **Review of Benchmarking Report**

The Town of Windham is using 14% less energy. Discussion about energy conservation expectations vs. data. Discussion about buildings that likely qualify for Energy Star certification. The commission will ask Celtic Energy to go over their report with the Commission.

5. **Discussion and approval of letter to legislature re: LED lighting and Dark Skies initiative**

J. de Smet reported that the International Dark Sky Association has asked the Commission to support legislation they are putting forward. C. Krohn MOVED that the commission should write a letter of support for this legislation. D. Bloomer SECONDED. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

6. **Next Steps** - None.

7. **Budget request for FY 2016/2017** - None.

8. **Updates on LED streetlights and Micro-grid**

Discussion about using solar for powering streetlights. Discussion about LED options for street lighting. C. Krohn reported that DEEP sent a response to the submittal looking for clarification and specific details. Those have been addressed and submitted to DEEP.

9. **Clean Energy Task Force Meeting 2/27/2016 at the Energize-CT Center at 10. Followed at 1:30pm by Connecticut Green Bank brainstorming session to help develop the next chapter of the renewable track of the Clean Energy Communities program.**

Discussion about what the commission would like done with the money. One suggestion is to issue CDs to folks who would be interested in buying in to clean energy. Another suggestion is to give block grants to towns based on population. Another suggestion is to make Virtual Net Metering available to all towns. Another suggestion is to lower the costs HES.

10. **Citizens and Delegations** - None.

11. **Adjourn 7:52pm**