

Board Members  
Martin Dietrich, Chair  
Wally Long, Vice-Chair  
Jason Reposa, Member  
David Travalini, Member  
David Fitzgerald, Member  
Stephanie Carlisle, DPW Staff Contact  
Frank Rossi, Bd Sictmn Liaison  
Andy Rodenheiser, PEDB Liaison  
Preston Gales, School Liason



Town of Medway  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
**ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
September 20, 2023– 6:30 pm



**Members present:** Martin Dietrich (by video), Wally Long, Jason Reposa, David Travalini (by video), Dave Fitzgerald, Stephanie Carlisle and Tracy Rozak, Recording Secretary.

**Also Present:** Charlie Myers

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### Call to Order

Martin called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm

### Public Comments

There were none.

#### 1. Discussion and vote: New Medway Energy and Sustainability Committee (MESC) Vice Chair.

Nick Fair has left the MESC committee so the Vice Chair position is open. Wally volunteered to be Vice Chair.

*Dave T. made a motion to nominate Wally Long as Vice- Chair. Dave F. seconded the motion and Wally, Dave F. Dave T., Jason and Martin all stated aye they were in favor and the motion was passed.*

#### 2. Discussion: Strategic planning session for upcoming year.

The committee members discussed their priorities for the coming year and it was decided that the top three were: Solar Canopy opportunities, Storm Water Run-off and Community Outreach. We can still work on other things but these will be the primary focus. Dave T. stated he is still interested in the school recycling program and he can pursue this on his own. He would also like to pursue sustainability, solar canopies and Electric Vehicles. Dave F. stated his number one item is the reduction of energy. It was decided there was no need to officially vote on the 3 priorities.

## **Discussion: Medway Energy Center (West Street Battery Energy Storage System (BESS))**

Stephanie stated she and Dave T. met with Michael Boynton, Town Manager and it was decided to make a request that West Medway Hecate donate some batteries. Stephanie suggested we make a list of capital budget items and ongoing funding items.

### **1. Potential project funding items for potential site host agreement.**

Stephanie stated she is not sure if we are even at the host agreement stage yet. Dave T. suggested battery packs for the middle and high school, funding a sustainability fund that would go into projects we wanted to do like solar canopies at small places like Cassidy. Marty suggested Stephanie create a list on the google drive where members can input their ideas. **Action Item- Stephanie will create this list and share it with committee members. They can discuss the items on the list at the next meeting.**

### **2. Discussion: Potential Capital Budget items.**

Dave T. asked if we should include items needed for rain gardens at the middle school. Stephanie stated these things are covered under the DPW list of items. Wally suggested funding for community outreach items such as a bouncy house at an MESC event. Martin stated the capital budget is for specific items and stated we can ask for more money in the operating budget for community outreach items. **Action Items -Martin will talk with Allison Potter about the budget process and see if we can get an increase.**

## **Discussion: Municipal fleet electrification and charging station infrastructure.**

Stephanie stated the town is going to replace the Town Assessor's vehicle with an EV and she will ask for another charger. They are also requesting to replace the Town Manager's and the Building Commissioner's vehicles with hybrids. There was a brief discussion about the cost of electric vehicles versus hybrid vehicles. Electric Vehicles are less expensive over time.

### **3. Discussion: Recycling Event on September 24, 2023.**

This event will be held from 10 am to 2 pm. Stephanie will have a tent, table and handouts. If anyone is available to help that would be great. Wally volunteered from 10-12. Dave T. stated he is available if he can get a ride form someone. Stephanie will pick Dave T. up for the 12- 2 shift.

### **4. Discussion: MESC Fall seasonal newsletter content.**

Stephanie suggested a Community Aggregation Update, the Brownfield applicant and advertising the second hazard mitigation plan meeting. Also add the stats/results from the Recycling Event on September 24, 2023. Dave T. suggested adding the link to the tax rebate site that tells you how much of a rebate you can get if you put in a heat pump, a new boiler, solar canopies etc.

## **Report from Chair**

Nothing to report at this time.

## **Report from Sustainability Coordinator**

### **1. Update: McGovern roof solar array.**

Stephanie stated Solect Energy and the McGovern School signed the letter of intent with the 12 cent PPA rate. Tomorrow she has a meeting with Solect Energy and the school to discuss the timelines. She will have more information at the next meeting. Stephanie stated the rate is good for 365 days but might change if there are additional requests.

### **2. Update: Draft Hazard Mitigation Plan.**

There is a public meeting on December 7<sup>th</sup> for public comments. Stephanie will send the draft plan out to the MESC members if they have any comments.

### **3. Update: Medway Police Plug-In hybrid and infrastructure.**

Stephanie stated Eversource came and looked at the transformer we already have and they said we do not need an upgrade. Stephanie will apply to the Mass EVIP Grant. Stephanie stated the Police Chief has a hybrid car and a plug in hybrid car they are going to use as a resource for long trips.

### **4. Update: Community Choice Aggregation program.**

Stephanie stated she forwarded the committee members the Department of Public Utilities new guidelines and a template for this program. Stephanie stated Colonial Power sees a lot of issues with it. The DPU are saying there is a significant back log so they need to streamline it. There is uncertainty about which municipalities are going to sign on and when so this has increased the base service rate. They are proposing to keep municipalities flexible but when you propose your plan you have to have a specific launch date. Stephanie stated we are just kind of waiting things out at this point.

### **5. Update: MS4 Annual Report and Phosphorus Control plan.**

Stephanie stated the annual report is done and she is just waiting for Michael Boynton to read and approve it. The Phosphorous Control plan will be finished and submitted tomorrow.

### **6. Update: US EPA Brownfield Clean Up grant application for Medway Block.**

Stephanie stated we have to get an assessment to remove the building and the contaminants underneath. They also have to get an assessment to remove and dispose of the sediment and make it ready for something new. Wally thinks that if they move the police or fire department to that spot, the town will have to show a very strong benefit for what building will take their place.

### **7. Update: FY23 Green Communities annual report and energy consumption.**

Stephanie stated she will present a summary of this at the next meeting.

### **8. Update: Green Communities grant application.**

Stephanie stated we looked at the senior center electrification proposal but there is worry that the heat pump will not produce enough heat in the winter. She is concerned because then there will be heat pump and oil heat which could be more expensive. **Action Item- Stephanie will talk to Bobby McGee and the Senior Center Director about electrifying the Senior Center**

### Housekeeping

1. Approval of June 21, 2023 meeting minutes as amended.

*Wally Made a motion to approve the June 21, 2023 meeting minutes as amended. Dave. F. seconded the motion and Dave T. Dave F, Wally, Jason and Martin all stated aye they were in favor and the minutes were approved.*

2. Approval of August 16, 2023 meeting minutes as amended.

*Made a motion to approve the August 16, 2023 meeting minutes as amended. Dave. F. seconded the motion and Dave T. Dave F, Wally, Jason and Martin all stated aye they were in favor and the minutes were approved.*

### Adjourn

*Wally made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm. Dave F. seconded the motion and Wally, Dave F. Dave T., Martin and Jason all stated aye they were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.*

Respectfully submitted by,

Tracy Rozak