**Energy and Sustainability Committee Meeting**

# **Board Members**

Martin Dietrich, Chair

Nicholas Fair, Vice Chair

Jason Reposa, Member

David Travalini, Member

Wallace Long, Member

David Fitzgerald, Member

Stephanie Carlisle, DPW Staff Contact

Frank Rossi, Select Board Liaison

Bob Tucker, PEDB Liaison

Cindy Sullivan, School Liaison

**November 16, 2022**

**Medway Middle School**

**45 Holliston Street**

**Door 9**

**6:30pm**

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2022, an act which extends certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the State of Emergency, and under which public bodies retain the option of holding open meetings and hearings remotely until March 31, 2023, and in accordance with the Medway Select Board’s remote participation policy as amended at its July 2, 2021, meeting, some Energy and Sustainability Committee members will be participating remotely. Information for participating via Microsoft Teams is posted at the end of this Agenda. Access via Teams is provided for public participation for those portions of the meeting open to the public.

**Members present:**  David Travalini, Martin Dietrich (remote), Nicholas Fair, Dave Fitzgerald, Stephanie Carlisle, and Tracy Rozak, Recording Secretary.

**Also Present:**  Cindy Sullivan, School Committee Liaison

**Absent:**  Jason Reposa, Wally Long

* **Call to Order**

Marty called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

* **Public Comments**

No Comments

* **Action Items**

1. **Discuss school solar project timeline.**

Martin stated that based on Cindy’s feedback from her meeting with the subcommittee, the School Committee is not interested in moving forward with the solar project at this time. There are a number of reasons but one is due to budget constraints and they will need to be replacing the school roof in the future. Martin stated when the Schools go to renegotiate their rate in the future, we can revisit the subject. Dave T. asked if we can still go in front of the School Committee. He doesn’t think the sub-committee should have the final word. Dave T. stated it would only cost the school money for the first year and the only other argument he has heard is about aesthetics. Cindy stated the solar panels are not a priority right now for the School Committee. They may consider it after they get their new roof.

Nick asked if Dave T. could go to the School Committee on his own. Martin stated Dave T. could go on his own as an individual to make a public comment but he should not go as a representative of the MESC. Martin stated the School’s contract negotiation is coming up in several months; we could approach them again at that time with the money they could save. Stephanie asked what she should tell Byron Woodman from Solect Energy. Martin stated we should pause this conversation for at least 18 months. Dave T. asked what incentive Solect will have to work for us in the future. Martin stated they have already done a lot of the groundwork.

1. **Update on hybrid and/or electric vehicle acquisition for Police and Fire Department vehicles.**

Stephanie stated she and Dave T. are going to Needham with the Police and Fire Chief next week to check out their electric vehicle. **Action Item: Dave and Stephanie will put together one to two slides summarizing the information.**

1. **Discuss replacement of administrative gas powered fleet vehicles with electric vehicles.**

The administrative vehicles will be the easiest to convert to electric. Nick asked if we could ask Peter Pelletier to come to one of our meetings and discuss the fleet list and the mileage of each. Martin stated this might be more of a budget item discussion for Peter. **Action Item: Stephanie will ask Peter about coming in to one of our meetings.**

1. **Discuss restarting the Community Choice Aggregation program to make a recommendation to the Select Board at the December meeting.**

Stephanie stated in the past, the Select Board and the Town Manager did not want to enter into a long term contract because they were unsure about future rates. Nick asked if we could have the broker come in and talk to us about the Community Choice Aggregation program. Stephanie stated she could. **Action Item: Stephanie will invite the broker to the January meeting.**

1. **Finalize topics to discuss with Select Board in December including Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), electric vehicles and charging station infrastructure, solar roof arrays/ solar parking canopies.**

Martin stated we should try to get on the agenda for the December 19th Select Board meeting. Marty will give our comments on BESS and submit paperwork afterwards if they want. Cindy stated they are looking at the VFW, the Senior Center, the Library, the two fire stations, the town hall and the school buildings but there have been no formal recommendations made except for the fire station.

Nick suggested we could look at the reports and the buildings and make recommendations to the Select Board. Martin thinks that is a very broad discussion to have with the Select Board. Martin suggests telling the Select Board that the MESC is available to help if they want us to. Nick suggested a member of the MESC could be on the facilities team that is looking at the buildings. Martin stated the data Nick has on solar roof arrays/solar parking canopies is great but it needs to be brought down to one or two slides. Martin would like to know how many solar panels the town would need. Nick stated they would need about 8,300 panels. Martin asked where we would put all of those. Martin stated he could work with Nick on that part. Martin stated they would also need to explain all of the costs involved. **Action item: Nick will work with Martin over the next few weeks to put a summary together about solar roof arrays/panels. Martin will reach out to the Select Board to see if they can get on their agenda for December 19th. Action item: We will schedule another MESC meeting on 12/14 at 6:30pm.**

**Housekeeping**

* + **Discussion on holding hybrid meetings.**

Martin prefers the meetings to be in person but hybrid meetings are an option. During cold and flu season, it would be better to attend remotely if you are not feeling well. Meetings will be in person but if someone needs to attend remotely, just ask Stephanie ahead of time.

* **Approval of Meeting Minutes from September 21, 2022 as amended.**

Nick made a motion to approve the September 21, 2022 meeting minutes as amended. Dave T. seconded the motion and Dave F. Nick, David T. and Martin all stated aye they were in favor and the minutes were approved.

* **Approval of Meeting Minutes from October 19, 2022 as amended.**

Nick made a motion to approve the October 19, 2022 meeting minutes as amended. Dave T. seconded the motion and Dave F, Nick, Dave T. and Martin all stated aye they were in favor and the minutes were approved.

**Other**

Martin noted that the member positions should be updated on the MESC letterhead.

* **Adjourn**

Nick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm. Dave T. seconded the motion and Dave F., Nick, Dave T. and Martin all stated aye they were in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tracy Rozak