

**Tolland Energy Task Force
Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2010**

Energy Task Force Present: Mark Summers, Michael Gannon, Letitia Naigles, Joshua Freeman, Joel Baker, David Scotti, Mark Riesbeck, Anji Seth, George Roberts

Liaisons Present: Beverly Bellody (Town), Chris White (BOE)

Others Present: Paul Tirrell (Tecton Architects), Dino D'Angelo and Julia Weatherby (Lindgren Sharples, PC)

Meeting was held at Hicks Memorial Town Council Chambers

Mark Summers called to order: 7:00PM

Approval of Minutes: Mark Summers moved to approve the February 3rd minutes.
Discussion: None. All were in favor

Geothermal Design Review

Paul Tirrell (Tecton Architects), Dino D'Angelo and Julia Weatherby (Lindgren Sharples, PC) presented an overview of the preliminary design analysis work to date for the Town Hall Geothermal project. They are currently in the final stages of the schematic design phase. Next steps are to conduct the test well evaluation (scheduled for week of March 8), conduct a thermal scan of the building envelope (also scheduled for March) and to make a final decision on a system design. This information will allow them to move to the detailed design phase where more accurate cost estimates can be made and it can be determined the scope and cost of work required to improve the building envelope (insulation, roof modifications, etc).

Four options were presented for the Geothermal system and were compared against a baseline oil fired boiler and cooling tower which would be comparable to the current system.

- 1) Replace existing system w/ oil fired boiler (Baseline)
- 2) Geothermal heat pump: Water-to air heat exchangers (Air ducted similar to current system)
- 3) Geothermal heat pump: Central water-to-water heat exchangers (2 pipe system)
- 4) Geothermal heat pump: Combination of water-air for large rooms and distributed water-to-water 2 pipe system for office spaces
- 5) Geothermal heat pump water-to-air with combination of ducted and in-room console heat pumps

Construction cost estimates for these options ranged from \$1.7 – 1.85M (estimates do not include potential energy rebates which are subject to project timing and rebate availability) with annual operating costs in the range of \$40,000 - \$45,000 per year (does not include maintenance costs which will be provided as a follow-up to this meeting).

The various options offer compromises between system simplicity and individual zone temperature controls. Detailed schematics will be provided to the TETF members for further review with a goal of choosing an option by the end of March. The design options will also be reviewed with the commissioning engineer from CES that was hired by the town for this project.

CT Clean Energy Next Steps

Mark Summers presented the TETF's proposal for purchasing electricity from renewable sources to the Board of Education on February 24th. TETF will request the Town Manager to present a resolution for the purchase of renewable energy to Town Council on March 23rd.

UConn Internship Program

Anji Seth explained the process for requesting an intern from UConn to support TETF activities. A proposal for the position needs to be written by TETF and then accepted by a UConn faculty member who will circulate it to potential candidates. A brief discussion was held to brainstorm areas for focus. Ideas included: Increase community awareness of recycling/energy conservation, develop TETF website, plan an energy fair, develop courses for teaching conservation topics to town residents, and update Energy Star Portfolio manager. TETF members are asked to share any other ideas via email so a consensus can be reached and a proposal can be drafted.

Energy Efficiency Forum

State Representative Bryan Hurlburt hosted an Energy Efficiency Forum on February 16th. Letitia Naigles and Joshua Freeman attended. Representative Hurlburt mentioned that the Governor has considered using money from the Clean Energy Fund to balance the State Budget and encouraged residents to provide feedback that this is not acceptable. Presentations were made on methods to improve home efficiency and devices for increasing fuel efficiency of vehicles. Letita presented an overview of the PV solar system that she installed in her home. Chris White provided an overview of the school energy programs.

TETF Publications

David Bergeron will write an article for residential CL&P customers telling them how to select alternate electricity suppliers to save cost over the default option. Letita Naigles will plan to write an article summarizing the 20% by 2010 clean energy campaign after the Town and BOE clean energy purchase resolution is approved. David Scotti will write an article about recycling compact fluorescent bulbs.

Chair Term

Mark Summers opened a discussion around the length of term for the TETF chair since no term limits have been established. The TETF members present agreed that a three year term would be appropriate and the term could be renewed at the end of the three years.

Other Topics

- Mark Riesbeck contacted the school science coordinator and she is willing to take the donated solar panels. Mark will follow-up with the person storing the panels to make arrangements for delivery to the school.
- Tolland Sustainable Community Forum on March 15th at Crandall Lodge.
- Joel Baker asked about the effectiveness and environmental impact of the new snow melt mixture that the town is putting on roads in place of sand this year. He will gather more information on this topic for review at a future TETF meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,

George Roberts