



Willington Sustainable Energy Committee

SPECIAL Meeting Minutes

Willington Sustainable Energy Committee

Saturday 9 a.m. (A virtual meeting, via Zoom)

PRESENT: Chairman John Tehan, Commissioner William Bunnell; Secretary Donald Berg. Member Pam Wheeler was absent.

1. **Call to order** – The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am. It was recorded on Zoom.
2. **Present to speak** – There were no members of the public to speak
3. The members discussed the solar proposal by DownEast Renewable Energy, LLC, including the proposal to lease Willington land for a large solar array. They compared benefits and costs if Willington self-financed the large system and the costs if they utilized DownEast's consulting services. There was discussion about the grid moving towards capacity and upgrading the towers with better conducting cables.
4. A motion was made by D. Berg "to amend the agenda to allow for a discussion on heat pumps. It was seconded by Bill Bunnell. J. Tehan discussed a new oil boiler proposed for one of the fire houses and how a heat pump would be more carbon neutral and would align with the State's goal of carbon neutrality.
5. Community compost discussion – J. Tehan discussed his own Vitamix Eco5 composting recycler, how it works and the committee viewed and discussed much larger units that, except for operational costs and staffing concerns, might be suitable for Willington. A place at the transfer station to locate a leaf composting facility might be a good start. D. Berg mentioned how Mansfield, CT composts their food waste in their leaf composting facility and it was approved by DEEP. J. Tehan offered that the State will likely require composting in the future and it was discussed how removing food waste from the waste stream could save on transportation costs.
6. Correspondence – none
7. Approval of minutes from prior meeting B. Bunnell made a motion to approve the minutes as written, J. Tehan seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously.
8. Motion to Adjourn – D. Berg made the motion to adjourn the meeting. B. Bunnell seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 10:14 AM. April 8 will be our next regularly scheduled meeting.

Submitted by Secretary, Don Berg

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