



City of Middletown
CLEAN ENERGY TASK FORCE
MINUTES
MARCH 3, 2021

Present: Chair Jennifer Kleindienst, Councilman Ed Ford, Jr.(6:39 pm), Councilman Vincent Loffredo, John Giuliano, Augie DeFrance, Dmitri D’Alessandro, Anna Salo-Markowski, Jeff Pugliese, Erin Dopfel, Ray Lumpkin

Absent:

Also Present: Christopher M. Holden, Michael Harris, Catherine Young, Krishna Winston, Shaya Tousi, Brian Stewart, Sanya Bery, Patrick McKenna

1. **Chair Opens Meeting:** The meeting opened at 6:34 P.M. Via Webex
2. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was requested to approve the February 3, 2021 meeting minutes. Councilman Vincent Loffredo made the motion, and was seconded by Dmitri D’Alessandro, passed unanimously.
3. **Public Comment:** Sanya Bery Wesleyan Student, presented her thesis project, energy plans for small communities. She requested that she would like to talk anyone that worked on Middletown’s Energy plan
4. **Old Business**
 - a. **Idea for required HES/weatherization from Austin, TX:** valexclimateconnections.org/2020/10/austins-population-is-booming-its-energy-consumption-is-not/: There was some discussion about this program. Jen Kleindienst and Michael Harris noted state bills that are working in this direction (882 and 356), one of which would establish an energy rating of houses so you know the energy use of the house. Cat Young shared <https://betterbuildingsolutioncenter.energy.gov/home-energy-score/value-home-energy-score>. Erin Dopfel will reach out to colleagues for a potential guest at a future meeting. Try to work with PZC, Stephen Devoto, to see if it can be incorporated somehow. Will have to think about ways to get real estate agents on board
 - b. **NRG Plant:** Councilman Loffredo summarized the involvement of the Council. There was a workshop and public hearing in mid-February regarding both sides of the NRG proposed improvements to the plant and the current City/NRG tax stabilization agreement. Since then, NRG is selling to another entity. Presented the City’s agreement and the press release regarding the forward capacity auction that NRG did not clear.
 - c. **CHEER Update:** Will present at the Northeast Summit for a Sustainable Built Environment. Want to make sure HeatSmart is available to all, not just wealthy. Still waiting for the CDBG grant. No MOU but uniform contract with I Heart My Home. Waiting on them.
 - d. **Permanent building committee ordinance:** Councilman Loffredo provided an update. No support to move this forward, but there is support to have a member from CETF to be on the building committee.

A top ten list would be developed for both City and BOE projects. Jen Kleindienst suggested incorporating City's Climate Emergency Declaration into the building committees' work.

- e. **Beman MS Building Committee Update:** Patrick McKenna/John Giuliano, on or ahead of schedule for the construction. They will provide containers to repurpose the furniture, within or outside of the country. Possibility for tour next month.
 - f. **New School roofs:** Two schools to have their roofs replaced. Make sure to evaluate solar and insulation. Councilman Loffredo and John Giuliano are both on this committee.
 - g. **HeatSmart next steps:** MOU has been through the legal department, and ready for the Mayor's signature. Cat Young will be coordinator.
5. **New Business**
- a. **Energy Coordinator's Report:** Provided prior to the meeting. No discussion.
6. **Other:** none
7. **Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 PM. Dmitri D'Alessandro, Anna Salo-Markowski. Unanimous.

Submitted for approval by Jennifer Kleindienst, Chair