

Green Committee

October 1, 2024 2:00PM –4:00 PM

Town Hall Lower Level Meeting Room and on Zoom

Attending in Person: Tom Houghton, Ed Paradise, Amy Paradise, Laurie Segal, Adriene, Tip Brolin, Michael Iasillia, Tommy John Schiavonni, Joe Lampert, David Ulrich, Evan Mason, Lynn Arthur

On Zoom: Mark McIntyre, Julie Burmeister, Gary Goldstein

1. Budget Process-- Michael Iasilli, Town Councilman requested we go out of Agenda order to accommodate his schedule. Michael Iasilli presented an overview of the Budget Process
 - 2 town meetings a year—where council reviews and recommends to the Supervisor.
 - Supervisor handles budget and meets with dept heads; the Councilmembers bring their requests to the Supervisor; she works with Comptroller and tries not to exceed the tax cap to develop preliminary budget
 - How does sustainability fit into the budget? We don't have a discreet budget line, we go through liaison to go through 2 streams that are shared. There is community funding that can be accessed for events, handled by Housing and Community Services, under Kara.
 - Outreach funding (flyers, social media, ads, goes through CRC which is a separate stream of funding that is Town authorized).
2. Tom Houghton, Town Engineer: expenditures and sustainability projects
 - Authorized contract to Peak Power up to \$46,000 to see how community can benefit from Community Solar, EVs, and Heat pumps. (passed in July). Peak Power executes outreach program that results in Town awarded grant funding from NYSERDA
 - Completed Community Solar Tiers 1, 2, and 3 and EV charging stations Tier 2—expecting \$405,000 in grant funding from NYSERDA
 - Previous award of \$200K planned for solar panels on Town Hall roof
 - Evaluating Designs for Solar on Town Buildings in Flanders
 - Parks red barn to solar and convert building to heat pumps feasibility study underway
 - North Sea solar community project expected to be operational by January; community will benefit starting in March 2025
3. Lynn Arthur
 - Funding is going to drop by about \$75,000 today as per Round 3 of Clean Energy Communities Guidelines
 - Town needed 375 subscribers to the Community Solar Campaign and we hit that mark—we have more than 600 subscribers

- Subscribers will receive guaranteed monthly savings equal to up to 8% of annual electric bill for free on their PSEG bill.
 - Click [HERE](https://www.meadow.energy/north-sea-solar) to sign up <https://www.meadow.energy/north-sea-solar>
4. Guest Speaker – John Andrews “Urgent Optimism: A Churchillian Climate Plan”
- Climate Denialism
 - Urgent Optimism
 - We are twice as efficient as we were, we are using less coal, but the rest of the world is increasing
 - CO₂ emission per person has gone down in US. We have to take the lead
 - A Churchillian Climate Plan--We are in trouble but we can prevail as long as we don't give up
 - **Reduced GGE, Adapt, Invent** climate saving tech, **Negotiate RAIN**
 - Why adapt?—defensive measures, immediate benefits, assist tropical nations to adapt
 - Adaptation 5 w's Warming, Water, Wind (storms increase in intensity, wildfires (hotter, dryer areas vulnerable), weirding (some areas getting too wet, others too dry
 - Invent --We need new technologies, the benefits will outstrip the cost
 - Carbon free energy, deploy best available Tech, Electrification agriculture and food
 - Reduce emission, policy options: Carbon pricing, incentives, regulations, information, empower women worldwide
 - Churchill had many backup plans—Climate change need to be similarly layered
5. Grants – Victoria/Gary
- Status Clean Energy Communities grant program
6. Community Composting – Joe
- Update on status of DEC for permitting for composting
 - Working on implementation; Tom said Town doesn't have someone who can lead the program in the field
 - 1000 lbs collected at Sag Harbor and taken to East Hampton thanks to Mary Ann
 - EPA has released more funds to support composting
 - Options (Joe)—using transfer stations as drop off point; satellite office in Hampton Bays

- What can volunteers—partially work out solutions, steps to progress model after riverhead. Mark, Joe and Mary Ann
- Tom - Help me figure out how to look

7. Outreach – Evan

- Mecox bay conservancy (working with Jay Schneiderman and Peconic Land Trust) to work on smarter lawn care, IA systems
- Tip, Adrienne, table event at Southamptonfest on Saturday, September 13, Amy Paradise will help table event

Flyers will be ready to distribute

Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, November 12 at 3:45 as Town Hall will be closed on Election Day