

## Town of Southampton

### Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 2, 2021 Southampton Town Hall

**Members present:** D. von Lehsten (DVL), G. Berk (GB), T. Brolin (TB), J. Ewing (JE), J. Burmeister (JB1), L. Arthur (LA), M. Lieberman (ML), K. Allan (KA)

**Non-members present:** Councilman R. Martel (CRM), I. Tabori (IT), L. Vosilla (LV)

**Meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM. Meeting minutes from February 2, 2021 were accepted.**

#### Progression and Discussion of 400+ Components

General Discussion Overview, as expanded below: **Gas Leaf Blowers; Potential Law Update:** DVL big thank you to C. Scalera for putting together the proposed law. We're looking to schedule work session with the Town Board and go to the next phase. Landscapers have tons of work and the law that exists in the Village of Southampton is verbatim. Town of East Hampton is having their second Public Hearing this week and expect their recommendation to pass. Time frame is from Memorial to Labor Day; no use of gas leaf blowers, it's not a ban. It's the low season time and landscapers have accepted this all over, we need to get it scheduled for a work session. CRM will check with CJB on the time period, education, incentives and plans for going to legislation. DVL we will look to a total ban in the future, small start banning the summer period. It's moving in NYS but I don't want to wait on the state. **Ban on the sale of helium filled balloons work session scheduled** DVL work session is scheduled for Thursday 10:45AM, the more folks that join the more it helps. TB we are ok to move ahead, the only possible problem is Zoon. CRM send the presentation to Charles ahead of time. TB they will send the link DVL GB you will need to send it out. TB I'll distribute **Town code update to create energy conservation building code for commercial property development:** GB any update? ML no immediate update, the NY Stretch code has funds available thru the state and NYSERDA for some commercial elements, they are more stringent for residential. KA what's the difference? ML our town code and state uniform code for commercial buildings. We are trying to determine where we are more stringent and where NYS is more stringent, we normally look at it and take it apart, if we do this it could impact potential grant money. KA what kind of money? ML Events can range \$50k to \$60K, 1,000 points; 5,000 point could be upwards of \$200k, incentivize capital to play with. Stretch code equals 3,000, Climate Action Plan equals 1,800. JE why does it take so long are there any obstacles? ML state only mentioned the funds a month ago, more requirements on lower tiers the higher the energy burden. **Battery storage code amendment** ML we passed the code, it's been adopted and we are in the process of creating the permit process. We have our first pre app pseudo larger scale battery storage application, moving forward but hasn't hit my desk yet. Once permits are finalized and we're comfortable we will move forward. DVL timeline? ML couple of days, lots of info trying to think of the most efficient way for all involved. **CCA and other energy projects** LA: CCA has evolved and is now offering two parallel tracks. One involves competitively bidding Power Supply however under LIPA LI Choice Program, the cost structure does not enable an ESCO to make a profit. Assemblyman F. Thiele, has written legislation whereby LIPA would change the CCA Tariff and resolve the cost structure issues with LIPA's LI Choice Program. The second track is CDG, Community Generated Distribution. The LIPA Board recently approved the CGD Tariff. Similar to Community Solar, a renewable energy developer could build a large solar array, offer it to CCA as a CGD project, get paid by LIPA at a higher rate than LIPA's historic Feed-In-Tariffs, and the CCA would distribute bill credits to the members selected by the municipal board, for example can distribute bill credits to economically disadvantaged constituents or seniors or whomever they decide. CGD is available now and JS, CF, ML, FZ and CJB are looking at potential parcels/places where the Town might build a CGD project. In summary, the Town can engage in a CGD project under CCA right now while we are waiting to get the pricing issue blocking competition on Power Supply resolved. **Recycling extended project responsibility legislation** distributed proposed law using a take it back; producers take responsibility to reduce or stop using packing material, if that goes thru it's a milestone for producers.

KA I will look for it. DVL this forces people to think about it; quite an impact – really the way to go. **Climate Emergency Declaration** DVL thank you Jim & Tip. The declaration came up in East Hampton and we took it, is it something we want? Does it make sense or is it another piece of paper being put out there? We are one of the many and our climate is in need. Do we do it to get PR? CRM it's a great vision I think there are so many unknowns, I need to talk it over with the rest of the board and refer to CJB, it sounds great on the surface. DVL 400+ plan, every decision has to look thru the lens for the 400+plan. ML sustainability is not codified, it recommends certain plans. **Resolution endorsing the declaration of a Climate Emergency in the Town of Southampton** TB two documents for the committee to consider towards carbon neutral, feeling & willing to move seriously in this direction to be carbon neutral by 2040. I've sent the draft out, please provide feedback. KA East Hampton is referring to a scorecard, roadmap that was put together in 2015. IT relied on info dating back to 2010, it needs to be rebuilt. We're all in the same boat doing it wrong at the moment but we need to make it right in the next 20 – 30 years, we're working on so many similar directions and we should share constantly, it will save time and energy. KA we need to have measurable items and be smart, we don't have a timeline, basic targets/roadmap, we're grabbing whatever comes our way. TB that's the goal for climate action plan, we tried to hire someone to do it, the town wouldn't renew their contract, we don't get anywhere without a plan and goal. KA start somewhere use 20/80 rules, budget issues, who does this really well. DVL we didn't have NYS with us, we were the first municipalities to come up with climate action plan. LA benchmarking, NYSEDA, ML has adopted much of it but getting the data is hard in order to make plans we collect our own data, foiled LIPA, there's lots and lots of data and we're left to our own devices as to what we're going to look at. IT East Hampton with budgets created, capital and operational budgets, energy efficient product capital costs is greater than old system but maintaining of that product goes down which is operational no one wants to absorb the upfront cost; we need to rethink how acquisitions decision get made and take into consideration.

## 1. EDUCATION

- a. Town Employees
- b. Homeowners and Other Residents
- c. Business Owners
- d. Primary School Education
- e. Educational signage
- f. Food Production & Consumption
- g. Outreach

## 2. WATER

- a. Regional Clean Water Coalition
- b. Surface Water Quality
- c. Education
- d. Regulated Water Conservation
- e. Water Treatment and Reuse
- f. Landscape Management
- g. Drinking Water Quality
- h. Groundwater Protection
- i. Stormwater Management
- j. Wetlands Protection
- k. Floodplains .
- l. Planning and Emergency Mgmt

## 3. ECONOMICS

- a. Sustainability Index
- b. Green Business Development *DVL Kelp is a natural carbon and nitrogen sink, sugar kelp (latissima saccharina) is native to our waters, is an extremely beneficial habitat for marine life and mitigates against*

*harmful algae blooms. As a commercial product, sugar kelp is a superfood, a thickening agent, a soil fertilizer, and has biofuel and bioplastic applications. Growing kelp is an economic opportunity for our local oyster farmers and fishers. The time is now for NYS to pass a "kelp bill" to permit local farmers who have been in a three year scientific kelp study to commercially grow and sell kelp. JB There has been resistance to oyster farming by the boating/marina community. Kelp farming may have the same objections.*

- c. Resource Sharing
- d. Affordable Housing
- e. Sustainable Economy

## 4. LAND USE

- a. Climate Action Plan
- b. Land Use
- c. Open Space Preservation
- d. New Open space
- e. Biomass Preservation
- f. Environmental Restoration
- g. Neighborhood Pattern and Design
- h. Heat Island Effect

## 5. TRANSPORTATION & AIR QUALITY

- a. Idling Reduction
- b. Bicycle
- c. Complete Streets

- d. Demand – Reduce VMT
- e. Public Transportation
- f. Parking
- g. Reduced Emissions Alt Fuel
- h. Neighborhood Pattern and Design
- i. Resilient Infrastructure

***Additional 2021 Meeting Dates:*** Apr. 6<sup>th</sup>, May 4<sup>th</sup>, June 6<sup>th</sup>, July 6<sup>th</sup>, Aug 3<sup>rd</sup>, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>, Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>.

**6. ENERGY / CARBON**

- a. Long Term Energy Planning
- b. Energy and Carbon
- c. Clean Energy Renewable
- d. Energy and Carbon Reduction
- e. Education –

**7. GREEN BUILDING**

- a. Sustainable New Construction
- b. Green Building Education.
- c. Water Efficiency in Buildings
- d. Heat Island Effect - Roofs

**8. WASTE**

- a. Municipal Facility Recycling
- b. Comprehensive E Waste Recycling
- c. Plastic Recycling
- d. Organic Waste
- e. Waste Education
- f. School Recycling/Trex
- g. Materials Exchange
- h. Paper
- i. Building waste
- j. Hazardous Waste
- k. Product Stewardship
- l. Long Term Waste Planning

**9. QUALITY OF LIFE**

- a. Promotion of Physical Activity
- b. Local Food
- c. Air Quality
- d. Facade Improvement
- e. Education
- f. Emergency Preparedness

**10. STEWARDSHIP**

- a. Trail Preservation -
- b. Historic Places
- c. Fisheries
- d. Nutrients in Environment
- e. Education Vacant Land
- f. Forest and Vegetation

***\*\* Meeting was adjourned at 5:30PM. Please be advised that our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 4:00PM, location TBD***