

VOL CSC Task Force

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 20, 2020 - 6 to 8 PM (via Zoom)

Attendees: Simon Moll, Ronny Hardaway, Lynn Leopold, Brian Toy, Deborah Dawson

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 PM

The minutes from 07/23/2020 were approved.

Hardaway informed attendees that the CSC Task Force Charter was updated to reflect the task force's new meeting day and time: third Thursday of the month from 6 to 8 PM.

Attendees discussed the status of PE2 tasks:

- Village Building Energy Usage - Hardaway reported that all Village building energy usage was delivered to CCE for inclusion in the GHG Inventory document.
- Village Transportation Energy Usage - Hardaway reported that all Village transportation energy usage was delivered to CCE for inclusion in the GHG Inventory document.
- Toy led a discussion on wastewater emissions data needed for the GHG inventory document. He will confirm with Terry Carroll what data is required for the Village and will send a request to the task force. Toy believes that the total emissions data from the Cayuga Heights wastewater treatment plant would be multiplied by the percentage of the Village's wastewater treatment. The emissions data would include wastewater treatment conditions (aerobic or anaerobic), natural gas emissions, and the gas/electric usage data for the wastewater treatment plant.

Leopold asked if anyone knew if the Cayuga Heights treatment plant was capturing and reusing methane emissions. She thought that it might be capturing and reusing. The task force will check into this capture and reuse.

Leopold also asked if the Cayuga Heights plant was run by contractors (YAWS?).

Attendees next discussed the status of PE3 tasks:

- Government Building Energy Audits - Hardaway reported that in prior discussions, the collected energy-usage data might be considered a low-cost energy audit. Hardaway will contact Terry Carroll for this information. The Village might have to look at a low-cost, third-party energy audit.
- Interior Lighting Upgrades - Hardaway reported that he could not find emails from Jodi Dake or John Courtney, so he might have to contact them again.
- Energy Benchmarking for Government Buildings - Hardaway reported that he will confirm with Terry Carroll if the energy-usage data already collected could be considered an energy benchmark. Toy will also email Carroll and ask this question.

The Village might have to find a low-cost, energy-audit service. Katherine Herleman had provided Hardaway a list by email, and he will compile a list of providers if needed. Leopold asked if the regular energy audit (like a private residence) could be used. Attendees were uncertain. This audit-type can be checked for possible use by the Village.

- Fleet Inventory - Hardaway reported, and Toy confirmed, that the Village fleet inventory was collected and submitted to CCE.
- LED Street Lights - Randy Smith sent an email with a status update. John Courtney will put together an inventory of street lights and will provide later. Leopold asked if street lights on the Highway 13 bridge are owned by Village. The task force will need to check with Courtney about this.
- LED Traffic Signals - Smith reported via email that all Village-owned street lights are LED. Hardaway told attendees that energy-usage data shows the non-LED and LED energy usage.
- Outdoor Lighting Reduction - nothing to report at this time.
- Outdoor Lighting Upgrades - nothing to report at this time.
- Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy - Leopold reported that she had reviewed the Montour Falls EPP Policy, and, for reference, she will forward the policy to Hardaway. Barbara Eckstrom, County Reuse Director, is developing an

EPP Policy for Tompkins County and she will make a preliminary presentation at the next PEEQ meeting on Monday, August 24. Deborah Dawson, PEEQ Chair, invited task force members to listen in on the PEEQ meeting at 1:30 PM, and Leopold and Hardaway plan to attend the Zoom meeting. The Village might be able to piggyback onto the county EPP Policy guidelines or piggyback on bulk purchasing with the County.

The Village might already be purchasing recycled or clean products. Leopold will check with Jodi.

There was a discussion about face mask and hand sanitizer purchases as a result of COVID-19 presence.

- Financing Mechanism for Government Energy Projects - accidentally skipped.
- Energy Code Enforcement Training (Hardaway/Scott) - Hardaway reported that Mike Scot took energy code enforcement training over the past year, and he will send evidence of having attended those training sessions.

Moll asked how far back we can go for energy code training. Attendees reviewed the action item documentation but could find no information on how far back the Village could go. The task force will assume going back 12 months is sufficient.

The task force next discussed new task force actions' status.

- PE7 Action: Hazard Mitigation Plan Updates - Hardaway reported that he and Mike Scott have been working with Scott Doyle on the Village's appendix to the Tompkins County Hazard Mitigation Plan. This appendix should be appropriate for this action item. We will work with the county on the Hazard Mitigation appendix development phases. The first draft of the appendix is due around the 1st of September.
- Draft Village Tree Ordinance - Moll led a discussion on the Tree Ordinance that he drafted. The ordinance is based on an old pledge element that no longer exists

(but, according to Toy might be revised and reintroduced as an action item.) Moll tried to keep the ordinance simple and easy to enforce.

The Village might be able to help fund some of the CSC action items from a percentage of the Tree Bank funds.

Leopold discussed carbon offsets as part of the Tree Bank Ordinance. Moll decided not to include carbon offsets to keep the TBO as simple as possible. Moll explained why certain ordinance elements were not included and why.

Attendees discussed how the ordinance might provide evidence for CSC action items: PE6 Action: Natural Resources Inventory and PE7 Action: Shade Structures in Public Spaces.

Attendees evaluated pledge element actions:

- Lynn Leopold volunteered for PE4: Solar Energy Installation and, if appropriate, PE4: Power Purchase Agreement for Renewables.
- Moll volunteered for PE4: Green Power Procurement Policy, PE4: Renewable Energy Feasibility Studies, and, if appropriate, PE4: Renewable Energy Credits.

Moll asked about the new task force meeting date/time. The task force charter states the third Thursday of every month from 6 to 8 PM.

Leopold asked about hydropower use by the Village. Much of upstate New York comes from hydropower, and she wondered if it would count toward clean, renewable energy. Deborah offered that Terry Carroll or Peter Bardaglio might know how much hydropower we receive.

Toy remembered a GHG-inventory-related question. Does the Village want to use a budget cycle for vehicle energy use and calendar cycle for building energy use? Hardaway stated that vehicle use will be a budget year, and building use would be a calendar year. Hardaway noted that two different date models would work fine.

Attendees discussed briefly CEC/CSC crosswalk items, where action items achieved in CSC could also count for CEC achievements. Joining CEC would give the Village additional CSC credits for joining a regional program promoting clean-energy use.

Hardaway reminded attendees that the last few agenda items are a simple process for addressing CSC action items.

This meeting might be Brian Toy's last meeting as he pursues a master's degree in Planning at Cornell. His future with CCE is still in flux. Taskforce members thanked him for his assistance.

Leopold asked if the energy utility bills showed clean energy usage. Hardaway to provide an online link to the utility-bill photos.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.