

Minutes
Planning Commission Meeting
Town of Coventry
Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 5:00 P.M.

Board Members Present

Daniel Rondeau- Chairman

Martha Sylvester-Vice Chairman

Mike Lucas

Phil Marquette

Stephanie Rondeau- administrative assistant

- 1. Dan called the meeting to order at 5:03p.m.**

- 2. Approve the minutes of August 12, 2020:**
 - Martha made the motion to approve the minutes of August 12, 2020 as written. Phil seconded the motion and the minutes were accepted and signed.

- 3. Allow for public comment:**
 - No public comment

- 4. New business:**
 - An updated contact list was distributed

- 5. Solar Energy Project:**
 - Dan, Phil, Dori and representatives of the school board will attend the select board meeting September 21, 2020. Information will be presented for discussion.

- The size of the array was discussed as well as which entities would benefit directly from the power produced.
 - i. Dan suggested that the array be large to benefit as much of the town as possible.
 - ii. The fire district was introduced as another entity that may benefit from this project to help defer increasing water rates.
 - 1. Power use for each building within the fire district was discussed for feasibility.
 - iii. Any agreement must be made through the town attorney prior to the start of the project.
- The possible allocation of excess energy credits was discussed for within the town as well as local residents and businesses.
 - i. Dan mentioned that the sale of a certain amount of power to Casella could potentially create long term revenue for the town if the town were to want to pursue that.
 - ii. It was established that the excess energy credits can be allotted annually and be altered as needed.
- This topic will be discussed further at the next planning commission meeting.

6. Economic Development Plan

- Martha will disperse some extra information that may be beneficial in forming the guidelines for the program.
- The budget available was discussed as well as the possibility of creating an extra job within the town to run the program. The position could potentially be filled with a grant writer that could assist the town and its residents with other grant related ventures.
- Martha suggested we look further into the improvements that could be made to Lady Bird Park as a recreational destination. Information will be dispersed on the current plan.
 - i. The possibility of obtaining a grant to hire a designer for landscape and recreational improvements.
 - ii. This topic will be addressed further at the next meeting.
- The Possibility of forming a subcommittee to run the rebate program was discussed in order to keep the process impartial and fair.
- Program requirements will be discussed more after further review.

7. Other Business:

- No other business

8. Motion to Adjourn:

- Martha made the motion to adjourn at 5:58pm. Motion was seconded by Phil and the meeting was adjourned.

The next Planning Commission meeting will be held on October 7, 2020 at 5:00p.m. at the Coventry Community Center with online options for the public to join.

Daniel Rondeau

Martha Sylvester

Mike Lucas

Phil Marquette

Joi Merritt