



Minutes: May 26, 2021 7PM

1. Meeting Opening

- a. Call to order: *Meeting called to order at 7:03*
- b. Roll Call: *Commissioners present: Stephen Sack, Joseph Campanella, Max DuBuisson, David Mello, Bernard Pelletier Members of the public: Christine Feeley*
- c. Approval of Minutes – April 28 2021: *Minutes approved*

2. Welcome Stephen Sack, new commissioner: *The Commissioners welcomed our new member on board*

3. Old Business

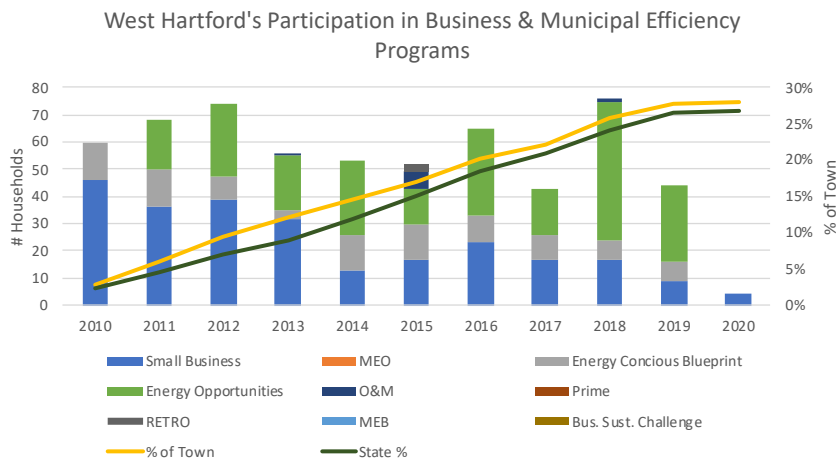
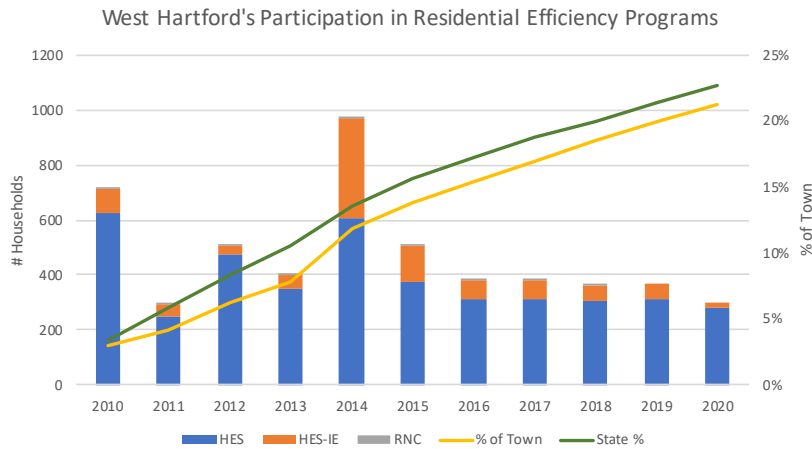
- a. Energy Plan Draft, <https://www.westhartfordct.gov/resident-services/clean-energy/comprehensive-energy-plan>
 - *May 27 report to the Public Works & Facilities Committee (Standing Subcommittee of the Town Council).*
- b. Public Art & EV Chargers - *On hold*
- c. Climate Emergency Resolution – Report on April meeting with Mayor and Town Manager. The Commissioner received this report from Hendree Milward:
 - *Dear CEC commission. We apologize that we cannot be there in person with you tonight. Here is a brief update on the Emergency Climate Resolution. We have met with the Mayor and Town Manager who were very supportive and gave us a path to adoption. The path includes taking the resolution to the Community planning and Economic Development committee in September, and if all goes well to the Town Council after that. We also gave a presentation to the Conservation and Environment Committee. 2 of the 3 commissioners there were very supportive. In their June meeting, they will discuss recommendations/endorsement of our draft. Interestingly, the endorsement for a national price on carbon in our resolution was very popular. That has been a sticking point for some others. We look forward to the chance to edit another draft of the resolution with you all. Please let us know when you are ready to meet to do that. Also, good luck tomorrow morning with the Clean Energy Plan. We've written the council members on the Public Works and Facilities committee with our support. Hendree will attend, but the rest of our team due to school will not be able to make it. We hope to celebrate it moving on to Town Council with you.*
- d. Commission reports (standing agenda item):

- Community communication network: Joe Campanella/ Chris Nelson/Mike Matthews
 - *Joe Campanella relayed the advice received from Renee McCue*
 - *Article on plan adoption presented in the Patch and WeHa.*
 - *WHCI West Hartford Community Interactive) – “Energy Matters” series*
 - *review Bio fuel script underway*
 - *Heat Pump Hot Water session (need to script)*
 - *DEEP energy retrofit of WH home (need to script)*
 - *Max Dubuisson to work on a HES and HES IE article*
 - *Bernie Pelletier to write up draft press release of Stephen Sack joining*
- Town Clean Energy Webpage: Catherine, Max Dubuisson, Mike Matthews
 - *Westin Williams, a community volunteer, has reviewed the Clean Energy Town webpages and is working with Catherine on updates*
- Heat Pump and efficiency education campaign: Bernie, Joe
 - Energy outreach to LMI: Bernie, Max
 - *Bernie, Joe, Max review high level map to a program – planning for early September launch*
 - Outreach for Sierra Club RF100: Joe, Mike Matthews, Samantha Dynowski –
 - *Nothing to report*
- EV car event: James Capella
 - *James Capella reports that event scheduled here in WH for June 25 see flyer attached below*
- Sustainable CT: August application – Clean Energy topics
 - *See below*
- Sustainability Advisory Group- Kick off meeting report (May 25, 6PM)
 - *Meeting held with Mayor, Town Manager, Alyssa Norwood of SustainableCT, and numerous community member. WHCEC represented by Stephen Sack who reports that the launch was well received.*

5. New Business

a. Review of West Hartford Participation in the Clean Energy Communities Programs

- *Review PACE spreadsheet that shows WH’s residential program participation is slightly below statewide average while the business participation is above the state average participation. Max DuBuisson to write an article for WeHa.*



b. Courant article on cost of electricity: <https://www.courant.com/business/hc-biz-connecticut-electricity-prices-20210412-oghfpvjrg5brndndpybkea666tiy-story.html>

- Discussion below:

- <https://www.courant.com/business/hc-biz-connecticut-electricity-prices-20210412-oghfpvjrg5brndndpybkea666tiy-story.html>

- Cold winters, end of the line and zero-carbon power
- High utility rate of return on transmission
- Natural gas and winter price spikes
- Connecticut vs. the regional grid
- Environmental policies

- *The Millstone power plant*
- c. Legislative review – including TCI discussion (Transportation and Climate Initiative)
- *Citing excerpts from the DEEP page on TCI Mr. Sack expressed concern that the way that the Transportation Climate Initiative (TCI) proposal is written several negative situations may arise that would be bad for the CT economy:*
 - *If the caps for emissions allowances are set too low it is possible that the availability of on road fuels may be disrupted*
 - *As now written -emissions allowance are tradeable – this opens up the possibility that market distortions (e.g., cornering the market) are possible which could disrupt CT's transportation fuels.*
6. Staff Report (*not done – Catherine will update next meeting*)
- a. Energy Updates
 - b. BEV grant proposal Town Fleet
7. Public Comment (*N/A*)
8. Adjournment: *Meeting adjourned 8:13PM*

"ANY INDIVIDUAL WITH A DISABILITY WHO NEEDS SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO PARTICIPATE IN A MEETING OR PUBLIC HEARING SHOULD CONTACT SUZANNE OSLANDER, DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, 860-561-7580 SEVEN DAYS PRIOR TO THE MEETING OR PUBLIC HEARING."



PART 4: GETTING ZERO EMISSION VEHICLES INTO OUR TOWNS!

Traveling Show of the Latest Electric Vehicles

2 confirmed dates with more to follow:

June 19: Bloomfield

Human Services Building parking area

June 25: West Hartford

Town Hall parking area

Hosted by:

Town of Bloomfield and Capital Clean Cities of Connecticut



ZEV's, or Zero Emission Vehicles, are no longer just the future. They have started to show up in our communities, and the technology is continuously improving. Follow us in our series and come with your questions and learn about the technologies of today and how you may become part of that new low-carbon future.