

Hartford Energy Commission Special meeting minutes

June 3, 2024

Present in person: Laura Simon, Jesse Pollard, Lynn Bohi, Esme Cole, Richard Otis (5:21): Dana Clawson, staff: guests Tad Montgomery, Gwen Stanley, Mark Anderson

Present virtually None

Jesse called the meeting to order at 5:07pm.

Public comment: Gwen and Mark are here to present an idea form Concepts NREC for a Department of Energy grant.

Minutes: postponed.

Heat pumps for Public Safety: The building needs heat pumps. Can the funds be taken from the Climate Action Reserve Fund? The project involves hiring Chris Hebb, who has done work in the building before, to design and install the heat pumps. It would cost approximately \$3,000.00. Laura moved and Esme seconded that HEC approve spending \$3000 of the Climate Action Reserve Fund for heat pump design and installation in the Public Safet building. The motion passed unanimously. Funds for the pumps will come from the Energy and Conservation Bock Grant.

NREC proposal Concepts: The federal Department of Energy has funds for analysis of using parts of the waste streams to power transportation. The grant for phase one is for \$500,000 to \$750,000 for 12 to 18 months. The grant must be proposed by a municipality or a non-profit. Concepts' idea is plasma gasification. Waste goes into a machine that burns it at a very high temperature to turn it into hydrogen and carbon which goes into a turbine and makes electricity. The byproduct slag becomes glassified. The high temperature destroys toxics in the waste and goes out a smoke stack. There is a 20% match needed from the partners during phase 2. Questions: where does the heat go? Can be used to heat buildings; how much power will it use? It is high, but there will be a net gain at the end.

Next steps: HEC decides to partner or not. Apply for feasibility study (phase 1) for a year, starting in January. Phase 2 is a prototype. An answer is needed by June 19. Gwen will write the proposal. Matching funds will be looked for from the other partners. Phase 1 will be a non-binding MOU. Esme moved and Richard seconded that if necessary the Selectboard approve that Concepts NREC and HEC move forward on a DOE grant regarding plasma gasification with the following conditions: it is non-binding and has no penalties, Concepts will write and resource the proposal, and, if awarded, will provide quarterly updates. The motion passed 4 yes one abstained.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Bohi, Clerk

Jesse Pollard 2024

Lynn Bohi 2024

Laura Simon 2025

Esme Cole 2025

Sarah Kelly 2026

Richard Otis 2026