

***Lancaster Energy Commission Minutes
Wednesday, February 3, 2016***

In attendance: EC Members Jay Moody, Don Atkinson, Ted Manning, Andrew Detsikas, John Bowman

Also in attendance: Staff Member Noreen Piazza

Minutes

Noreen Piazza circulated the minutes from the 12/2 meeting. No changes or corrections were noted.

Update – Green Communities Annual Report/Mass Energy Insight Reporting

The GC annual report will be filed with DOER on 12/4. The results were that the Town performed at a 6% **increase** in energy consumption compared with the 2008 baseline year. The following is a breakdown by category:

Buildings

A 9% increase over 2008, mainly in the area of oil and propane usage. Electricity was down overall.

Water Pumping

A 1% increase over 2008.

Vehicles

A 4% increase over 2008. We did add several vehicles into the fleet in 2015 (Fire, DPW, Police).

Streetlights

A 4% decrease over 2008. Perhaps we are seeing some leverage from LED technology.

Although we have made great strides in lighting, insulation, weatherization and heating systems, we still have a lot of work to do, and this should be reflected in our goals for 2016.

Noreen also reported that DOER has requested that Lancaster pull their energy consumption data from Mass Energy Insight, a state database of electrical, oil and propane consumption for each municipality. Historically, the EC has used our own reporting tool that was designed and maintained by Andrew Detsikas. Noreen will check with DOER to see if we can continue to use our own tool as it is tailored to our own needs and more user friendly.

New – Green Communities Grant

Noreen will be submitting a Green Communities grant for the Prescott Building HVAC system. The application is due by 3/25, and if awarded will bring us \$250,000 towards the project. An audit was completed by Guardian Energy that showed a comparison of consumption and efficiencies between the older steam-heat system that used to be in the building, and also a comparison between the new HVAC

system and the Town Hall's current system as that is the building that is being vacated. The grant awards are expected in the June timeframe.

Update – Municipal Building Energy Projects

The EC re-reviewed the town building energy project list for 2016. The following are updates on each project:

- 1) Police Station, Building Envelope Inspection – building will have new insulation installed on the north-facing exterior wall, discussion has continued on constructing an outside vestibule on the rear of the building
- 2) Community Center, Cabinet Heater Repair (3) – determined that there was an electrical problem which has now been repaired
- 3) Community Center, Cabinet Heater for Stairwell (2) – TBD
- 4) Community Center, Envelope Sealing -- Dave Foster has started weather stripping for the gym windows, steel plates should be installed over the cabin heater vents in the gym
- 5) Town Hall, Zoning – No plans to implement as building is being vacated in 2017, project withdrawn
- 6) Community Center, Zoning/Hydronic Baseboard System – project withdrawn
- 7) Central Fire, Lighting – Free/low-cost lighting installed in 2nd floor training room
- 8) Town Hall, Heating System – No plan to implement as building is being vacated in 2017, project withdrawn
- 9) Library, Heating Systems (2) – One unit was replaced in November, second unit to be replaced in Summer 2016

Update – LED Streetlights

Noreen reported that the (17) new LED streetlight fixtures, photocells and associated hardware have been ordered. She also met with SMLD to confirm all work that needs to be done by SMLD and National Grid. Installation will be scheduled with SMLD after the lights are received.

The application for rebates has also been submitted to National Grid.

Update – Fuel Master Program

Noreen reported that the Town does not receive reports from the program on how much gasoline and diesel are being consumed per each fleet vehicle. She will investigate this further as there should be a mechanism to download the information.

Update – Main Street Gas Line Extension

Noreen had no update from National Grid. This discussion will be tabled until the 4/13 EC meeting.

Fire Chief Mike Hanson did connect with National Grid on connecting South Fire Station into the gas main on Main Street. The installation/connection will be completed in the spring at no cost to the Town. In the meantime, the heating system did fail and was replaced with a propane-based unit that can be converted to natural gas when the connection is made in the spring.

Next Meeting

The next regularly-scheduled meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 13, 6:30 PM, at the Town Hall. An agenda will follow.