Coventry Board of Education
Coventry, Connecticut

Special Meeting of the Board of Education
Unapproved Minutes of Thursday, September 12, 2019
Administration Building Conference Room

Board Members Present:
Jennifer Beausoleil, Chairman
Eugene Marchand, Vice Chairman
William Oros, Secretary
Sean Gallagher
Mary Kortmann
Kelly Sobol

Board Members Absent:
Frank Infante

Town Council Members Present:
Joan Lewis, Chair
Lisa Conant, Vice Chair (arrived 6:37 p.m.)
Jonathan B. Hand
Mike Sobol

Administrators Present:
Dr. David J. Petrone, Superintendent of Schools
John Elsesser, Town Manager
Robert Carroll, Director of Finance and Operations
William Trudelle, Director of Physical Plant and Facilities

Audience Members Present: Members of the Microgrid Team: Chuck Brody; Mike Sahm; John O'Brien; Patrick Early and one citizen

I. Call to Order

J. Beausoleil called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.

J. Lewis said the Town Council does not have a quorum. She added that L. Conant is on her way, Carolyn Arabolos is ill, and Julie Blanchard and Matthew O'Brien are not present, but she heard they are at a Republican Town Committee event. She said Town Council members present would be here as spectators.

J. Beausoleil noted that the Council cannot act tonight because they do not have a quorum. She apologized that not all Council members could be in attendance.

II. Audience of Citizens

There were none.

III. Old Business

III.A. Discussion and Possible VOTES - Coventry Microgrid
Lisa Conant (arrived 6:37 p.m.)

J. Beausoleil introduced the Microgrid team.

Mr. Elsesser noted that there have been weekly conference calls to keep everyone updated. He said it has been very productive.

Chuck Brody stated that they do not have enough information for the groups to vote tonight. He said this will be a status read-out for the groups.

He shared a presentation, as an update, regarding where they are in the process, which included what has already happened, what the project is waiting for, and a revised timeline.

He bulleted the following milestones that need to happen:

- Receive fully executed DEEP contract
- CNG fuel pricing discussion - Town-wide bulk agreement
- Finalize project finance partner(s) and terms

He continued his presentation, reviewing the unresolved cost drivers which included multiple factors remaining to be settled that influence infrastructure CAPEX, operating costs, and project financing.

He reviewed the next steps in the project: Initiate contract drafts between Town/Board of Education & Coventry Microgrid, LLC; Engage Eversource Impact Study; Engage CNG (or 3rd party suppliers) for fuel purchase negotiation; and Finalize project finance partner(s) and term sheet.

The group talked about the cost of the natural gas. The group continued and talked about various details such as virtual net metering and how to meet the November 4 deadline [or the October 21 Town Council meeting]. J. Beausoleil said that the virtual net metering and the PPA are both needed before the Board would make a final decision.

Mike Sobol thanked everyone for the work they have done on this, especially Dr. Petrone and Mr. Elsesser and their staff for working collaboratively together. J. Beausoleil agreed and also thanked everyone.

Mr. Elsesser quickly updated where Orchard Hills is in the process. He noted how beneficial this will be for the housing authority.

J. Lewis also thanked everyone for their efforts.

J. Hand thanked everyone, especially for sharing the level of detail in the information provided.

IV. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

By: M. Kortmann Seconded: E. Marchand

Result: Motion passes unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

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Kimberlee Arey Delorme
Board Clerk

Approved: __________________