

Buildings and Grounds, Safety and Security Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes
June 26, 2017
Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

In attendance: Dr. Scarpetti, Bill Kraut, Christian Young, Jeff Cap, Chantelle Bunnell, Mary-Jo Sierakowski, and Mike Luzzi

The solar generation project was reviewed with input on the contract status and budget impact. There is a concern that the solar project implementation is not consistent with the representations made by the agents of Kingspan and American Solar & Alternative Power when the project was presented to the Town of Orange, and, that the terms of its implementation by Kingspan and CT Green Bank are materially and fundamentally divergent from those agreed upon by the town. Where the BOE had bargained for and agreed upon an assured substantial cost savings by going green and allowing Kingspan and CT Green Bank to benefit from the generation of solar power upon its school buildings, in fact, the BOE is experiencing cost increases as a result of the solar project.

Ben Healy of CT Green Bank has communicated with Mike Luzzi regarding the acknowledged issue and has offered to mitigate the shortcomings and costs by renegotiating and readjusting the terms of the electricity contract to eliminate the newly realized electricity cost increases by changing the Kwh rate and extending the term of the contract. The discrepancy between the representations of savings relied upon by the BOE in entering into the solar contract, and, the actual cost increase imposed by the solar contract are attributed to shortcomings and errors in calculations by Kingspan in formulating the basis of their offer to the BOE.

The subcommittee unanimously agreed to seek legal advice regarding how to proceed in addressing the solar project contract with Kingspan and CT Green Bank.

The lighting project with Kingspan for Peck Place has been put on hold as the solar project issues are addressed.

The United Illuminating energy audit was completed and all school buildings except for MLT saw dramatic increases in energy efficiency and could qualify for benchmark recognition.

The bonding projects were reviewed, including the milling, paving, parking, and lighting at THS. Racebrook is expected to be paved in 2018. ADA projects and timing were reviewed. The schools are now being cleaned, painted, and serviced.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm