MINUTES OF THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

City Council Chamber

June 20, 2019- 6:00 P.M

Committee members present: Scott Orzechowski, Chair, City Councilor Ed Levasseur, Doug Watson, Devon Stanley, and Michael Bobinsky.   Sarah McGraw and Wendy Berkley were absent from the meeting.

Scott Orzechowski opened the meeting at 6:02pm.

1. Approval of the May 16, 2019 minutes.   Mike Bobinsky moved and Ed Levasseur seconded the motion to approve the April minutes. Motion passed unanimous vote.

2. **Correspondence**.

    Doug discussed an event he attended recently at Tea Tottilier called "Climate and Coffee". The event was sponsored by the League of Conservation Voters and had a few speakers including Seth Sachs and Rob Weaner who discussed the film Paris to Pittsburg", film about the local impacts of climate change. Seth is part of the League and their group handles promotion, arranges panel speakers on climate change issues. Doug mentioned that Rob is on the City of Concord Climate Action Committee and perhaps the Committee and their focus is a model for other Cities to follow. Doug proposes that the City's Sustainability Committee should collaborate with the League of Conservation Voters on the Speakers Bureau and future speakers on climate change. The film Doug referenced may be a good choice for a future event sponsored by the Committee. The Committee discussed collaborating with the League on a late September event and that Scott and Doug would speak to the Mayor to confirm interest in showing the film in the Community and for the Committee to host the event. Doug agreed to also speak with Rob Warner to initiate talks about his participation and assistance with the event. Devon offered to communicate with School officials to learn in the CTC Theater would be available to host this event in late September.

    Doug also sent around Energy Star Program Training Events, Water Wise, through webinars on a series of energy conservation programs, ideas and strategies.

    We discussed a future Tree Inventory that the NH Department of Natural Resources offered to do for the City. Mike is following up on this opportunity with State officials.

3. Unfinished Business
   A. Idle Reduction Policy Status: Mike advised that the draft policy worked on by the Committee is in review with the City Manager. Staff was asked to research how other seacoast municipalities are addressing reduced idling of engines and compare their policies with what is proposed.

   B. Items for July City Manager Newsletter. Discussed recent tree planting event organized by the Department of Public Works; WWTF Energy Efficiency Award; and possibly once ready to announce, the fall speakers' program on Climate Change.

   C. Climate Change Speaker Series: The Committee discussed logistics surrounding the organization of a speaker's event and all that must go into that effort to be successful; reserving the venue, lining up the audio-visual support, advertising the event and implementing. The Committee suggested that the September speaking event be the showing of the film "Paris to Pittsburg" to help the public get a better understand the effects of climate change on everyday lives. It was suggested that Ann Ropeik of NHPR be contacted this summer and advise her we think that the October would be a better time for her speaking engagement. Scott and Doug will communicate that to Ann and they will also make contact with representatives of the League of Conservation Voters to line up the film for the September event. Other Committee members will be assisting with this event as well; Devon will make contact with School officials regarding use of the CTC Theater for the proposed late September event. Scott and Doug will arrange a meeting with the Mayor to review potential speaker topics for the Fall Speaker Series. The August meeting will focus on planning details for the September event.

New Business.

There was no new business to come before the Committee

Meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J. Bobinsky
Director of Public Works and Utilities
City of Somersworth