



# Sustainability Oversight Committee

Secretary – Mike Guyon

Due to the public gathering restrictions and executive orders in place because of COVID-19, this Sustainability Oversight Committee meeting was conducted remotely via Zoom. Members of the public can participate during the open forum via Zoom. For Zoom meeting information, please reference the Town's Live Streaming webpage at:

<https://www.townofbrighton.org/499/Streaming-Video>

## **Sustainability Oversight Committee October 7, 2020**

### **Meeting Minutes**

#### **Attendance:**

Erinn Ryen, Mitch Nellis, Nate Gibbs, Paul Tankel, Shubhangi Gandhi, Steve Kittelberger, Brian Lynch, Robin Wilt, Evert Garcia

#### **Open Forum:**

#### **Minutes:**

The September 2020 meeting minutes were approved with no revisions.

#### **Announcements:**

#### **New Business**

#### **Old Business**

##### **○ Benchmarking and Annual Report**

- Town staff will begin working on the Benchmarking Report and Annual Report that are usually developed by the SOC every year.
- The Annual Report is generally developed to summarize the committee's activities and work for the previous year. Meanwhile, the Benchmarking Report is developed to report the energy consumption of covered municipal buildings.
- Drafts of the reports will be shared with the committee via email for review and comment when available.

##### **○ Tree Inventory Update**

- Members of the Conservation Board and Town staff have developed a Survey123 collection form which will be used to update the existing Tree Inventory for the Town.
- The collected data will automatically be tied to the Town's GIS system as it becomes populated.
- George Smith and his team hope to start testing out the application this fall with completion of the inventory by the spring of 2021.

- **Climate Action Plan Grant-Goals Update**
  - The Town of Brighton was selected to receive a CSC grant in the amount of \$40,000 to fund the Climate Action Plan.
  - Town staff has completed all outstanding items needed to finalize the Grant Work Plan and Grant Budget. The grant is currently under the contract review phase.
  - Like other grant applications in the Town, staff is awaiting a response from the regulatory agency on how to proceed.
  - The SOC discussed updating the goals which were included in the draft CAP to better align with the State's updated climate targets. The concern with doing CAP related work before grant funds have been received by the Town is that any work by the committee prior to executing the grant documents will not be eligible as in-kind volunteer work towards the grant.
  - The committee will review the draft CAP and report back on sections of the document which can become areas of focus for the committee in the near future.
- **Pollinator Habitat-Update on meeting with Commissioner**
  - Nate provided a brief update on the meeting with Mike Guyon, Commissioner of Public Works.
  - The Commissioner is agreeable to the installation of pollinator gardens in areas that makes sense for the Town of Brighton.
  - The Town is currently looking to focus on areas that will reduce the amount of mowing that is included in the annual mowing contracts. This approach will make the installation of the pollinator garden more attractive from a financial standpoint as it can be considered a budget neutral action.
  - Evert will email the list of potential pollinator garden areas which are currently mowed by contractors to the committee. Committee members can then sign up to visit the various sites and report back on their findings at the next meeting.
- **Green Amendment**
  - Robin provided an overview of the Green Amendment request to the SOC. A Green Amendment is defined as self-executing provisions placed in the Bill of Rights section of a constitution that recognize and protect inalienable rights of all people to have clean water, clean air, and a healthful environment.
  - Robin is requesting a letter of support from the SOC for the inclusion of a Green Amendment in the NYS Constitution.
  - The committee is supportive of this request and will put together a letter of support which can be submitted to the Town Board.
- **CCA Update**
  - Various conforming bids were received as part of the second round of bids submitted for the CCA energy supplier.
  - Source Power Company was selected as the approved energy vendor for the Brighton CCA.
  - Source Power Company is a NY based energy service company that will be providing 100% renewal electricity to the Town of Brighton at a fixed rate that is lower than the standard energy mix provided by RG&E for a 24-month period.
  - A public outreach program will be launched soon by Monroe Community Power, the CCA administrator, to update Brighton residents on the latest CCA developments. The new supply rate will begin to be reflected on Brighton customer bills in January 2021.
- **Development Project Updates**
  - Updates to development projects within the Town were briefly discussed.

## **Adjournment**

## **Next Meeting:**

- The next meeting is scheduled for **November 4, 2020**, at 7:00 PM via Zoom.