

Climate Smart Summary

March 31, 2017

Hillsdale is a Climate Smart Community and part of a network of New York communities. Even small towns like our can contribute to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving climate resilience. Using guidelines outlined by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, our committee has been busy. To briefly summarize their recent activities:

Completed the work on the Unified Solar Permit and Benchmarking.

Submitted an application for a grant to install an Electric Car Charging Station at Town Hall.

Sent materials to NYSERDA that will get Hillsdale started on Energy Training.

Reviewed current street lights (numbers and locations) to understand what it will take to install LED lighting.

Looking for consultants who can help residents understand how to buy and install solar panels.

Paul Duernberger ENERGY TRAINING

Lee Heim, Hillsdale Building Inspector, has identified two building projects that have plans that would be good to use for a review session. He has sent the building plans to the NYSERDA contractor for review to see if these plans are acceptable.

Once he accepts them and we have a joint review, the next step will be to arrange for a site visit to a job that is under construction and we will have another joint review with the Clean Energy Review Team and the contractor. Hopefully we can accomplish these last two steps within the next 30 days.

Howard Henward LED LIGHTING

Robina and I both listened to the Webinar on LED Municipal Lighting. Our District is too small to achieve many economies but a Consultant would help us join a group of municipalities to hire a contractor through a State RFP process. We have obtained maps from Pam Cook, the Assessor, and Robina has obtained a computer program to allow us to do a physical audit of lighting locations next week. Then we can engage NYSEG and the Consultant (free through the program) in a dialogue on purchase, replacement and maintenance of the system and present our findings to the TB for a decision on what way to proceed.

From Robina Ward on LED

The computer program is from the Mid Hudson Consortium, and is called Arcgis. The software will create the audit map. We should see a reduction of 75% of energy costs after we replace the fixtures with LED.

Bob Kessler SOLARIZE

I am waiting for something from Robyn Reynolds on the cell providers so there is nothing to report. However, with the current administration determined to destroy any environmental gains I think we should proceed apace.

Robina Ward/Howard Van Lenten BENCHMARKING

The Benchmarking project is completed. We have entered three years of data into NYSERDA's on-line program. We have received from the Town Board a resolution committing the Town to reporting to the DEC and the public via the Town web site energy usage of our three municipal buildings, Town Hall, Highway Garage and Police Substation. Next step is to wait to hear from Robyn Reynolds that we have met all the requirements for this High Impact Item.

Steve Bluestone UNIFIED SOLAR PERMIT

We have completed all the steps necessary for this High Impact Item. Robyn Reynolds has all required resolutions and the new permit itself. It has also been delivered to our Building Inspector for his use. Now we just wait for a check for \$2,500.

David Lewis CLEAN FLEETS - Electric vehicle charging station

At the March Town Board meeting, the subcommittee asked for and got unanimous approval to apply for a \$16,000 grant from DEC to install an electric vehicle charging station in the Town Hall parking lot. Myself and Tom Carty, Steve Bluestone and Howard Van Lenten completed the lengthy application and submitted it on March 29. The deadline was March 31st. Now we wait and see!