Arlene Liscinsky called the meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**In Attendance:** Committee Members: Arlene Liscinsky, Tom Minotti, and Jim Orazietti (by Skype).

**Absent:** Win Oppel, Michael Pacowta, and Jay Francino-Quinn.

**Also in Attendance:** Allan Cameron, Director of Finance; Freeman Burr, Superintendent of Schools; and Board Members: Chairman of the Board, Mark Holden and Kathy Yolish; Ken LaCroix, Judson Crawford, A&T; and Dvang Patel (from UI). John Carbone and Jack Schaeffer represented Power Point Energy.

**Purpose of the Meeting:** Information gathering regarding proposed Photovoltaic projects at Elizabeth Shelton School, Long Hill School, and Perry Hill School--Possible expression of interest in continuing to pursue these projects.

Mr. Tom Harbinson of 15 Soundcrest Drive, Shelton, CT addressed the Committee. He presented his work background and told the Committee that his company wanted to be environmentally friendly and installed photovoltaic cells at his facility. He was able to participate in grant programs. Currently the array generates 115% of his company’s energy needs. He proceeded to explain how photovoltaic energy works at his company, the economics of the venture, and the value of renewable energy. He offered the BOE any help needed and proceeded to field questions. He said his $500,000 investment has a 12-year payback. The array was installed around 2008.

Mr. Dvang Patel of United Illumining addressed the Committee. He gave his background with the company and offered his help to the BOE. He explained that it was important for UI to see that these systems were implemented in the safest way. He supported renewable energy and offered to support the BOE and the installers.

Al Cameron introduced John Carbone of Power Point Energy. PPE came to the attention of the BOE through the City bidding process and has been partnered with the BOE since the beginning of the energy efficiency projects at SHS and SIS. They’ve been involved with the board in a number of very successful energy saving projects.

Ken LaCroix added that PPE has saved the BOE money and has been a very good company to work with.

John Carbone presented his company’s background referring to renewal energy applications and programs. He felt that this was a good rime for the BOE to get started because of the State of Ct credits available.

A PowerPoint presentation was handed out.
Mr. Carbone provided an overview of PPE. He identified where the project could be helpful in Perry Hill, Elizabeth Shelton and Long Hill schools. He discussed the structure of the agreement to purchase renewable energy. There would be a considerable discount with considerable financial benefit. The system would be maintained throughout its life by PPE. He explained that there would be no capital outlay by the town. He further described the benefits. He explained how the system worked and showed the proposed location of the solar arrays on each of the schools. Perry Hill School would have a photovoltaic system. ESS and LH would have PV and Solar Thermal. He explained how the systems would be monitored.

It was confirmed that not enough energy would be generated to sell back to the grid.

Mr. Orazietti expressed his concern about the weight of the arrays on the roofs and whether or not there could be potential penetration of the roofs.

Mr. Carbone explained there would be no roof penetration and the weight of the equipment would not negatively impact the integrity of the roofs. All of the installations would be verified and signed off by a professional engineer.

Discussion followed regarding the ability of the roofs to bear the load.

The tax incentives were scheduled to disappear in 2016. Renewal energy credits are available. The BOE would realize a 25% reduction in the cost of electricity.

Freeman Burr reminded everyone that they only had a 2-week window in which to get their application in. It was the purpose of this meeting to make a recommendation.

Ken LaCroix indicated that an added benefit would be a new hot water system. He indicated that he’d like Mohegan and Booth Hill to be next. These two schools need roof replacements first.

**ACTION:** Tom Minotti moved to have the Finance Committee recommend that the Board of Education continue to pursue these projects.
Mr. Orazietti seconded the motion.
A vote was taken with all in favor. Motion carried

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Faith B. Hack
Recording Secretary