

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

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Town of Somers  
WESTCHESTER COUNTY, N.Y.

SOMERS TOWN HOUSE  
335 ROUTE 202  
SOMERS, NY 10589

DON BLEASDALE  
CHAIRMAN



**MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 13, 2026**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

The following members were present: Don Bleasdale, Flo Brodley, Long Garrett, and Rick Warren.

Mike Scorrano was absent.

Resident Jill Gardner was also present.

**Minutes** – A motion was made by Mr. Warren and seconded by Mrs. Brodley to approve the minutes of the December 9, 2025 meeting as submitted. All were in favor.

**Meeting with Millenium Strategies**

Mr. Bleasdale, Mrs. Schirmer and the Supervisor met with the Sofia Ohrynowicz of Millenium Strategies regarding a grant to have an assessment done of the Town-owned Nine Acres property in Shenorock. The NYS Department of State's Brownfield Opportunity Area Program is a viable option and should reopen in May 2026, with an expected application deadline of July 31<sup>st</sup>. The plan is to apply for this grant when it reopens in May and the requirements will include a work plan, budget, letters of support (and documentation of additional community engagement), and a resolution. Ms. Ohrynowicz will write the grant and the Committee will assist in seeing it to fruition with the Town if it is granted.

**Earth Week Celebrations**

Mrs. Brodley reported that plans are underway for Earth Week. The Committee will host a speaker and Repair Café on the Sundays during that week at the library. There is a list of artists that have expressed interest and their participation is being confirmed. Mrs. Brodley will reach out to the Heritage Hills Hikers; Ms. Gardner Lasdon and

Muscoot; and Mrs. Schirmer to the Somers Land Trust and Open Space Committee about hosting an event during the week as well. An article was placed in the Heritage Hills Newsletter. Ms. Gardner provided a list of past events held in the Town and locally that will be reviewed for ideas. A calendar for the events being held during that week will be created and distributed. Some of the Town money budgeted for the Committee will be used to pay for materials that any of the artists need.

### **Somers High School Environmental Club**

Mrs. Brodley will reach out to the teacher who leads the Somers High School Environmental Club in an effort to see if they might be willing to host an offering for the students during Earth Week.

### **Committee Newsletter**

Mrs. Brodley is writing an article about the history of the Committee since its inception to present day for the next newsletter. All were asked for input and suggestions for other topics.

### **Household Material Recovery Facility (H-MRF) Membership**

At the December meeting, Mrs. Brodley wondered why the Town is not a member of the Household Material Recovery Facility in Valhalla. Councilman Clinchy said he will reach out to the Town Attorney.

### **2026 Budget**

\$1,000 has been placed in the 2026 budget to be used to promote Earth Week activities and to evaluate Town properties recycling efforts including a plan to improve them.

### **EV Charger Outlets, Heat Pumps and Solar Panel Building Permits Issued**

During December, the Building Department issued 5 permits for Heat Pumps and 3 for Solar Panels.

### **Sustainable Westchester's Community Solar New Campaign**

Mrs. Schirmer reported that Sustainable Westchester is still accepting sign-ups for their Community Solar Campaign and as of the end of December, 85 new residents signed up for this campaign. The Town continues to send out email blasts about this campaign and the total that sign-up at the end of the campaign will result in points awarded that will be transferred into funds for the Town.

### **Community Resiliency, Economic Sustainability, and Technology (CREST) Grant**

At their meeting on July 10, 2025, the Town Board approved spending the \$100,000 CREST Grant money received through Senator Harckham on two plug-in hybrid vehicles, one battery electric utility vehicle and battery powered tools for Parks and Recreation to be used for property maintenance. These items have not yet arrived.

### **Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Grant Award**

At their July 11, 2024 Town Board meeting, the Town Board passed a resolution to have the Supervisor execute the CSC Grant Application that is part of the 2025-2026

Climate Action Planning Institute of Westchester County (CAPI Westchester). CAPI Westchester is a regional climate action planning leadership program that is designed to lead participants through the development of a Local Government Operations GHG Inventory and Government Operations Climate Action Plan which are key priority actions under the CSC program. The initiative will convene in the spring of 2025, will last for 16 months and is facilitated by the Hudson Valley Regional Council in partnership with ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability. Each community will complete their own GOGHGI and develop a draft GOCAP using ICLEI developed software and tools designed for this purpose. This process has started with Mr. Bleasdale and Mrs. Schirmer providing the requested information which to date was a copy of the NYSEG and Sueco Oil bills for each building for 2023 and 2024. Liz Sun of the Hudson Valley Regional Council is now in the process of organizing the data.

**Municipal Reduction and Recycling (MWRR) Grant for an Organic Recycling Yard Project**

The Town has applied for the Municipal Reduction and Recycling Grant for the Town to create an organic recycling yard at the Highway Department and is working with the Highway Superintendent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Schirmer, Secretary  
Somers Energy and Environment Committee

cc: Energy and Environment Committee  
Town Board  
Town Clerk