



**TOWN of**  
**THOMPSON**

**Board of Selectmen**

AGENDA FOR SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
Tuesday, June 4, 2019 7:00 p.m.  
Thompson Historical Society

RECEIVED  
TOWN OF THOMPSON, CT.

2019 MAY 31 P 12:37

*Cathy Walker*  
TOWN CLERK

\*\*\*\*\*

Pledge of Allegiance

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes  
BOS Meeting 5-21-2019
- III. Correspondence
  - A. Chamber Business After Hours
  - B. Learning in Retirement 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Coast Guard Band Concert Invitation
- IV. Selectmen Comments
- V. Citizen Comments
- VI. Community Fire – Update on plans for the Fire Station
- VII. Fort Hill Farms Energy Proposal
- VIII. Recreation Commission Transportation Bid Award
- IX. Sand Dam Road Culvert Bid Award
- X. Other Business
- XI. Citizens' Comments
- XII. Tax Refunds
- XIII. Executive Session
  - A. Litigation - Starr Road
  - B. Litigation - School Oil Spill
- XIV. Adjourn



TOWN of  
**THOMPSON**

*Board of Selectmen*

RECEIVED  
TOWN OF THOMPSON, CT.

2019 MAY 24 A 9:25

*Linda Paradise*  
ASST TOWN CLERK

SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
Tuesday, May 21, 2019 7:00 p.m.  
Thompson Town Hall – Seney Room  
MINUTES

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- I. Roll Call First Selectman Ken Beausoleil and Selectman Amy St Onge.  
Selectman Steve Herbert was out of town.  
Others: Rich Benoit (DPW), Janet Blanchette (J&D Engineering), Steve Benoit (Emergency Management).  
Members of the public; Recording Secretary Dotti Durst

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by First Selectman Ken Beausoleil.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

- II. **Motion by A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2019 Meeting carried unanimously**

- III. Correspondence
- A. DESPP Report: Troop D- month of April 2019
  - B. Chamber of Commerce – Business After Hours
  - C. Connecticut Education Association – Teachers' Retirement System (TRS): memo regarding possible escalated pension costs which could be passed to the town
  - D. The Susan Wayne Center of Excellence – Invitation June 12, Wed 11:30 - 2
  - E. UCONN – Senior Project (email)

- IV. Selectmen Comments:
- A. St Onge – none
  - K. Beausoleil – the holiday parade and Memorial Day celebration will be on Monday beginning at 9 AM

- V. Citizen Comments-Roger Tremblay, 458 Brandy Hill Road: questioned the appropriateness of "R" rated movies being shown at the public Library/Community Center. He has spoken with the Librarian and the First Selectman about his concern. After giving a sample of what another local library is offering, not in the category of movies, he called upon the Selectmen to bring the issue to the voters.
- Linda Jarmolowicz, 7 Dennis Drive: Asked about the status of Mary who handles Animal Control for the Town. K. Beausoleil – yes, 6 hours a week

- VI. Possible Signing of Tax Warrant and Mill Rate: n/a as the Referendum failed

- VII. Possible Discussion and Action on Legal Notice of Town Meeting and Referendum  
K. Beausoleil – the BOF met last night and made adjustments to the budget for fiscal 19-20. First: They have removed Question 3 regarding the School Security Grant.

Second: The total budget being put forward is \$26,450,414. The budget amounts are \$7,641,842 (General Government) and \$18,808,572 (Education). The Town Meeting will be on Thursday, May 30 at 7 PM at the Community Center. with the Referendum scheduled for Thursday, June 6 from noon until 8 PM at the regular polling places.

K. Beausoleil read the entirety of the Legal Notice of the Annual Town Meeting into the record.

- VIII. Sand Dam Road Culvert RFP Bid Opening: 4 bids were received  
*Old Colony Construction, Westbrook, CT*  
*Total bid amount: \$254,954; a bid bond was included*

*Suchochi and Son, Preston, CT*  
*Total bid amount: \$148,617; a bid bond was included*

*New England Infrastructure Inc, Hudson, NY*  
*Total bid amount: \$540,000; a bid bond was not found in the paperwork*

*Northern Construction Services, Weymouth MA*  
*Total bid amount: \$583,850; a bid bond is included. They note they are registered in Connecticut.*

The bids will go to the Town Engineers for review and a recommendation.

- IX. St. Joseph School - Request for Road Use of several roads Saturday May 25  
**Motion K. Beausoleil seconded by A. St Onge to approve the use of the roads on May 25 as specified carried unanimously.**
- X. Other Business; none
- XI. Citizens' Comments: none
- XII. Tax Refunds: none
- XIII. **Motion to adjourn by A. St Onge seconded by K. Beausoleil carried unanimously.**

K. Beausoleil adjourned the meeting at 7:17 PM.

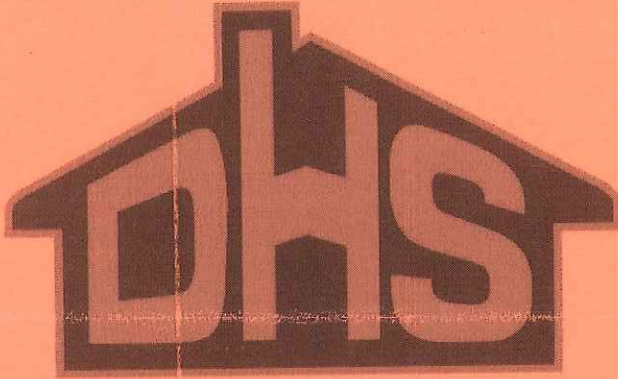
Respectfully submitted by Dorothy Durst, Recording Secretary *Dorothy Durst*

*These minutes have not yet been approved by the Board of Selectmen. Please refer to next month's meeting minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes.*

# BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

19 MAY 28 AM 11:11

SELECTMEN'S OFFICE



D. H. Copeland Builders

**WHEN: JUNE 19, 2019, 5 - 7 P.M.**

**WHERE: 17 DUCUBELLIS COURT,  
PUTNAM**

(OFF OF RT. 21, TAKE PAULA ROAD TO DUCUBELLIS COURT. NEW DEVELOPMENT APPROX. 1 MILE NORTH OFF WESTVIEW HEALTH CARE CENTER)

**COST: \$7.00 FOR MEMBERS  
\$13.00 FOR NON-MEMBERS**



Return to: NCCC, 210 Westcott Road, Danielson, CT 06239

Call 860-774-8001 or register at [www.nectchamber.com/events](http://www.nectchamber.com/events)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Business \_\_\_\_\_

Bill Co. \_\_\_\_\_ Payment enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

\$7.00 for members/\$13.00 for non-members

D.H. Copeland BAHrs.

## JOIN US!

- ◆ Meet and network with other business representatives from the entire region.
- ◆ Tour some of the homes created by the D.H. Copeland team.
- ◆ Enjoy fabulous refreshments prepared by The G Seven Catering Co. and Friendly Spirits.

## COST:

\$ 7.00 for Members

\$13.00 for non-Members

## TO RESERVE:

Call the Chamber at

Phone: 860-774-8001

Fax: 860-774-4299, email to [info@nectchamber.com](mailto:info@nectchamber.com)

or reserve online at

[info@nectchamber.com/events](http://info@nectchamber.com/events)

# *LiR celebrates our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:*

## *U S Coast Guard Band Concert*

**First Selectman Ken Beausoleil, Selectmen Amy St Onge & Steve Herbert**

**You are cordially invited to attend  
the U S Coast Guard Band Concert,  
Saturday, June 29 from 6 PM – 9 PM  
at The Woodstock Academy Center for the Arts, RT 169, South Woodstock**

Please invite your family and friends to join you to kick off July 4<sup>th</sup> week. At this time, please print the number of tickets you are fairly certain you can use; you can go back and print more tickets if you learn that others can attend.

At [wacenterforthearts.org](http://wacenterforthearts.org) select your specific seats and print.  
Aisle and limited mobility seats are available.

**All town staff, in every department,** are also invited. Please distribute the information about the concert broadly through your internal communication methods, including to your School District, DPW and all Boards/Commissions.

We look forward to your Town Leadership Team joining us on June 29.  
We will celebrate America's birthday and LiR's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary together.

**LiR (previously named Learning in Retirement)**  
is a membership organization based at QVCC, with over 400 participants who  
select the learning topics they prefer each semester.  
Founded in 1994, local men and women have developed the program  
into the strong organization it is today.  
Visit our website for further details.



LiR Adult Learners at QVCC

[qvcc/lir.edu](http://qvcc/lir.edu)

You are never too old to learn!

# Fort Hill Ag-GRID LLC

Peter Orr; Owner – Fort Hill Farm  
Kies Orr; Fort Hill Farm

Rashi Akki; CEO - Ag-Grid Energy  
Rahul Gupta; COO – Ag-Grid Energy

## Fort Hill Farms Background

- Fort Hill Farm is a family-owned and-operated dairy farm, with a total of approximately 500 animals on-site. It's located in Thompson, Connecticut
- The farm owns greater than 1000+ acres and has a crop production base of 600 acres waiting for the soil to be enriched with digestate. Over 400 acres are forest managed with a sustainable harvesting program.
- Given estimated recoverable manure from a combined 546 head, and average cow weight of 1,400 pounds (lb) for milk cows and 1,000 lb for the dry cows and heifers, the combined total live animal weight (LAW) of the animals housed in these barns is estimated to be 686,000 lb. or around 686 animal units (AU).
- Including the wash water from the milking parlor and based on an estimated average milk production level of 90 pounds/cow/day, the estimated recoverable dairy cow manure totals about 37 tons/day, roughly around 13,525 tons annually.
- AG Grid also proposes co-digesting a liquid food waste with the dairy cow manure. The co-digestion feedstock is assumed to be a generic COD-rich material with a flow of 24,000 gallons/day feedstock, which annually totals a material flow of around 37,760 tons.

## Ft Hill Ag-Grid LLC Mission

Fort Hill Farms ("FORT HILL") and Ag-Grid Energy LLC ("AG-GRID") have partnered

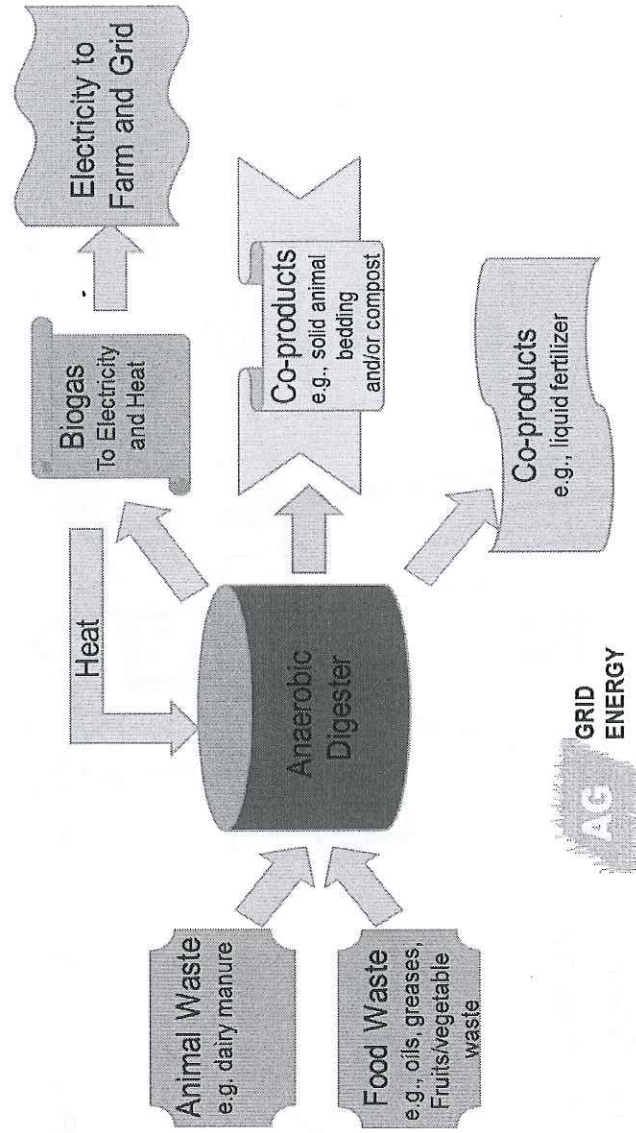
and created a special purpose entity, Fort Hill Ag-Grid LLC,

to develop, build and partner in the supply and operation of an anaerobic digester,

at FORT HILL's facility located at 260 Quaddick Road, Thompson, CT

for a term of 15 years from the point of commercialization.

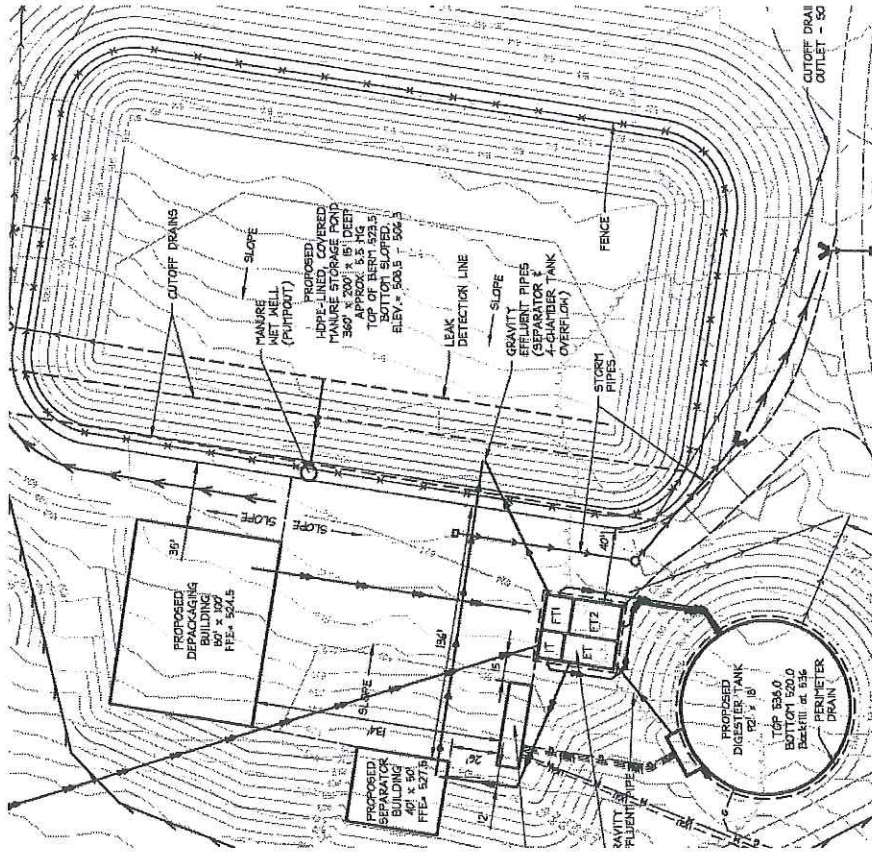
Simplified Concept of Belden Ag-Grid Anaerobic Digester System





## What is the mission of Fort Hill Ag-Grid LLC

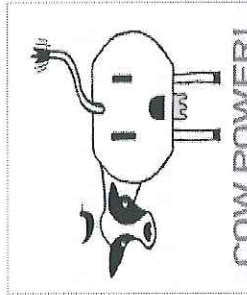
- This facility would represent Connecticut States first farm anaerobic digester that would generate electricity.
- The facility includes
  1. anaerobic digester,
  2. manure and food reception tanks,
  3. digestate storage tank,
  4. solid separator unit,
  5. electric engine and generator,
  6. interconnection to Eversource electric grid
  7. Depackager



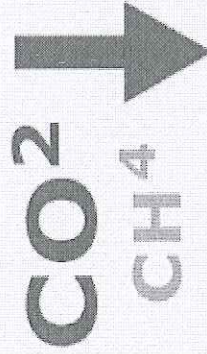
# Benefits of Ft Hill Ag-Grid Anaerobic Digester



Recycle 30,000 tons of Waste and generate bedding for cows



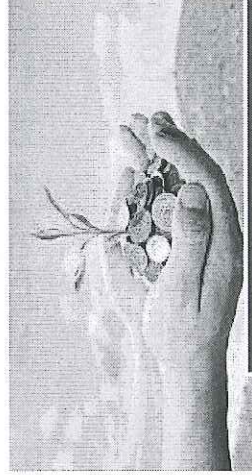
Generate >3 M kWh of green energy



Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by xxxx Mtons/year



>\$100,000 farm savings for electricity, heating, bedding and manure



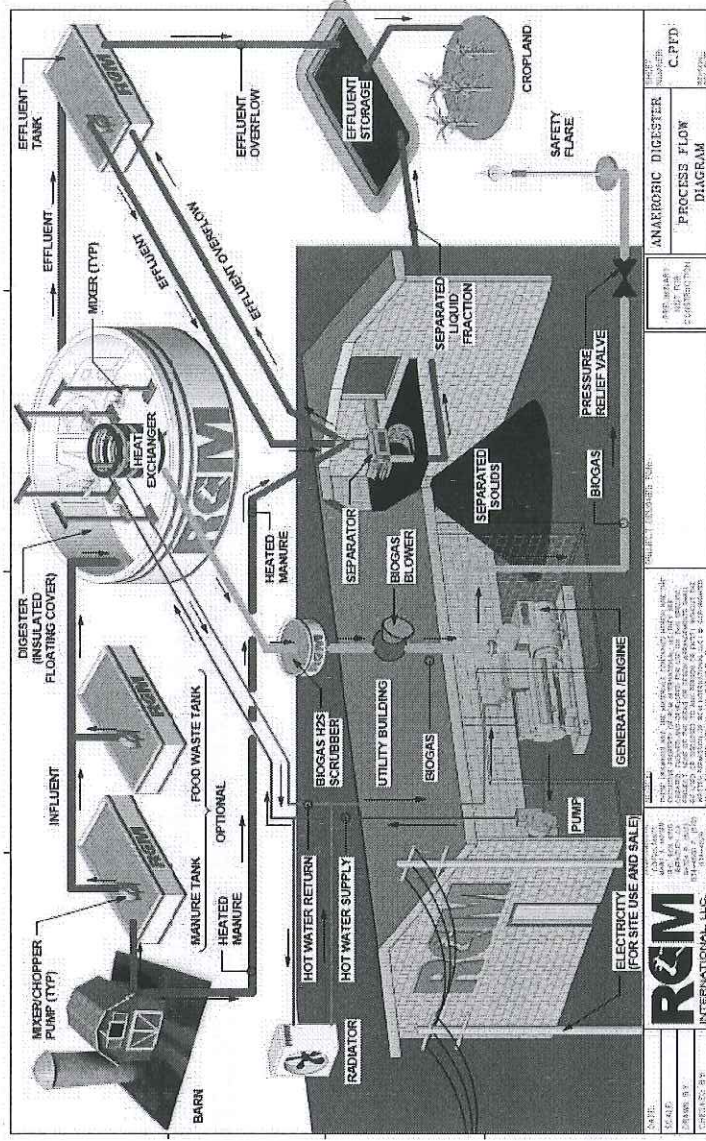
Long term revenue stream for farm

**On an annual basis Fort Hill Ag-Grid LLC is expected to**

- Generate 3.3 Million kilo watt hours of electricity
  - Produce electricity for Fort Hill Farm
  - Produce excess electricity to serve the local community such as Town of Thompson, Town of New Britain and Middletown
- Produce heat for Fort Hill barn floors, house and water (replace oil and wood burning)
- Reduce farm odors
- Recycle ~24,000 tons of food waste from the local area
- Reduce Millions of tons of carbon dioxide emissions, and
- Generate an ongoing cash flow for Fort Hill Farms

## What is being added on Fort Hill Farm?

- Tanks
  - Digester round tank
  - Manure collection tank
  - Food waste collection tank
  - Digested manure (effluent) storage tank
- Contained engine and generator to produce electricity
- Flare to burn biogas (if needed)



## What to expect at Fort Hill Ag-Grid LLC once constructed?

- Liquid food waste supply of 3-4 trucks/day; Each truck is 6000 gallons;
- Replace manure trucks with digested manure trucks – no odor
- Gas Flare if electric generator is down for maintenance

*Compared to solar generation, Anaerobic Digester generates electricity 24/7 for 365 days  
As cows and digesters eat everyday and produce manure and therefore electricity everyday*

## Project Sources and Uses

- Project costs continue to creep up
- Biggest latest surprise was Eversource creating a new policy to not provide electrical connect up to the Engine location
- The project faces continued risk of the land being too wet and potential up-tick in cost if the soils from the land have to be replaced by outside material

Sources:	Digester Updated
Green Bank Loan Guarantee Cap	\$ 803,676
SBA Loan Guarantee Cap	\$ 1,136,965
REAP Grant	\$ 244,000
CT Ag Grant	\$ 49,999
NRCS Grant	\$ 440,000
ITC from Fort Hill Ag-Grid @99%	\$ 716,664
Fort Hill Ag-Grid Equity (Safe Harbor)	\$ 165,829
Fort Hill Ag-Grid Equity	\$ 300,000
Stearns Bank Loan	\$ 2,101,887
Total	\$ 4,018,379
Uses:	Digester Updated
Digester Turnkey Construction Cost	\$ 2,738,702
Storage Cost	\$ 232,127
Construction Insurance	\$ 12,000
Excavation-Lagoon - Holcomb	\$ 433,000
Interconnection	\$ 227,550
Developer's Fee	\$ 100,000
Closing Costs	\$ 100,000
Electrical Extension	\$ 175,000
Total	\$ 4,018,379

## Timeline for Fort Hill Ag-Grid Project

- **Already completed**
  - December 2016
    - Ag-Grid and Fort Hill formed partnership and
    - Created Fort Hill Ag-Grid LLC
    - Identified ITC partner LOI
    - Obtained contract from RCM as EPC provider
    - Safe harbored project in 2016
  - 1H 2017
    - Identified Food Sources
    - Identified REC broker/end user purchasers
    - Received NRCS grant
    - Initiated pre-permitting for air and food waste
    - Applied for Eversource Utility interconnection
    - Applied for Virtual Net Metering under Agriculture Host
    - Determined permitting pathway
  - 2H 2017
    - Initiated air permit application
    - Initiated impact study for interconnection
- 1H 2018
  - Updated CNMP
  - Finalized the layout
- 2H 2018
  - Obtained air permit
  - Received REAP grant and loan guarantee
  - Received Virtual Net-Metering allocation
- **Next Steps**
  - 1H 2019
    - Construction start-up!
    - Initiate Solid Waste permit to introduce organics
  - 2H 2019
    - Complete 3-phase to Fort Hill Ag-Grid
    - Project completion! – biogas production with manure only
    - Initiate generation of electricity
  - 1H 2020
    - Start-up and Ramp-up

## Request for support from Town of Thompson

1. Be the Municipal VNM customer for Fort Hill Farms for up to 300,000 KWH/year
2. The 15% of the VNM credit would be re-directed to Town of Thompson based on the Standard VNM price which is updated by Eversource every 6 months
3. Current VNM price is \$0.137/KWH
4. The savings for 300,000 KWH would be up to \$60,000 over 10 year period
5. We also request waiver of the permit fees for local permits.

Thank you for your support!





**Fort Hill Farms and Ag-Grid Energy LLC Contacts**

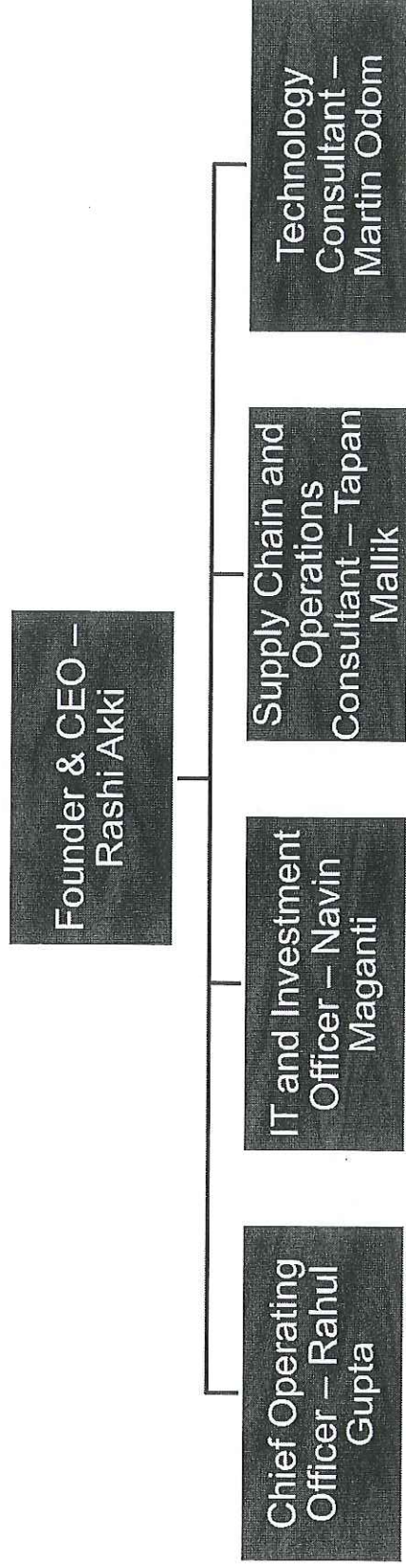
- Fort Hill Farms Contacts for further information
  - Kies Orr
  - [Kies.Orr@hotmail.com](mailto:Kies.Orr@hotmail.com); Ph: 860-942-3108
  
- Ag-Grid Energy Contacts for further information
  - Rashi Akki, Founder & CEO;
  - [Rashi.Akki@aggridenergy.com](mailto:Rashi.Akki@aggridenergy.com) Ph: 610-574-8737

Background on Ag-Grid Energy LLC  
**AG-GRID ENERGY**

Fort Hill Ag-GRID LLC C O N F I D E N T I A L | [www.aggridenergy.com](http://www.aggridenergy.com)

## Ag-Grid Energy LLC Vision & Structure

“Ag-Grid Energy LLC has a vision to convert agricultural and organic waste into renewable energy, compost and support local area practices that lead us towards a sustainable environment.”



## AgGrid Team

- **Rashi Akki is the founder and CEO**
  - Prior to launching Ag-Grid Energy LLC, Dr. Akki worked for 20 years at the leading chemical company DuPont. Dr. Akki held progressively senior positions in central R&D, DuPont Titanium Technologies, Nonwovens and Industrial Biosciences. The last 3 years of experience at Industrial Biosciences introduced Dr. Akki to advanced biofuels and biogas. Currently Dr. Akki is a member of American Biogas Council and PBEA (Pennsylvania Biomass Energy Association). Dr. Akki received her B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Osmania University, M.S from University of Connecticut and Ph.D. from Georgia Institute of Technology.
  
- **Rahul Gupta: Chief Operating Officer**
  - Dr. Rahul Gupta has over 16 years of experience working at both technology startups and large multinational companies with a focus on bringing new products to market. Prior to joining Ag-Grid, Dr. Gupta was the head of business development and marketing for Cambrios Technologies, a Silicon Valley startup focused on bringing flexible and transparent solar cells, touch sensors and flexible displays to the market. Dr Gupta has also worked on optical telecommunications at Lucent technologies, OLED displays and lighting at OSRAM and a large scale inkjet printing for manufacturing of LCD TV's at AKT (Applied Materials). Rahul received his B.Tech. degree from Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, MS from University of Texas at Austin and Ph. D. from the University of California at Santa Barbara (Advisor Nobel Laureate Prof Alan Heeger) and an MBA from the Hass School of Business at the University of California at Berkeley.

## **Ag-Grid Team**

### **■ Nain Maganti, IT/Investment Strategy Officer**

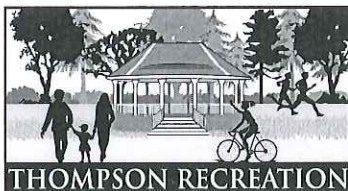
– Nain Maganti brings experience in establishing and running organizations with a focus in renewable energy, technology and consulting services. He currently serves as Director of Kenergy Wind Power & Infrastructure (P) Limited and President of Confiance. Mr. Maganti has over 15 years of progressive sales, technology & management experience in North America, Europe, and Asia. He holds a M.S.BA from Temple University, as well as a Bachelor's in Electrical Engineering from Pune University in India

### **■ Martin Odom – Technology Consultant**

– 29 years of industrial experience in DuPont's Central Research Biochemical Science and Engineering Division. Experience includes development of new technologies for oil and gas production, biomass conversion to methane, liquid fuels, via both solar and dark fermentative processes. The last 2 years at DuPont included consulting on anaerobic digestion of cellulosic wastes from cellulosic bioethanol process. PhD degree from University of Georgia Dept. of Biochemistry 1981. Prior to joining DuPont in 1985 postdoctoral work included 1. Grant from Gas Research Institute to study basic reactions in anaerobic digestion, 2. Biomass conversion to hydrogen (Solar Energy Research Institute 1983).

### **■ Tapan Mallik – Supply Chain/Operations Consultant**

– Dr. Mallik has extensive hands-on supply chain management, consulting and international experience in improving bottom line and operational performance. He has 18 years of experience with DuPont and 9 years at Arkieva, Inc. His significant experience in supply chain would allow us to derisk the food waste supply contracts for the term of investment. Dr. Mallik's did his Ph.D. in Management Science and Information Systems from University of Texas at Austin.



***"Our mission is to enhance, promote and support quality recreation facilities and opportunities for all residents of the community."***

May 30, 2019

Dear Board of Selectmen:

A bid for summer camp busing was sent out in March 2019. We received two bids. See estimated bid amounts for two buses each camp day. Be advised that some field trip days may require additional busing for additional participants.

It is the recommendation of the Recreation Director and Recreation Commission that we select Dattco and sign a 1 year contract.

Rukstela: \$45,960, with increases 3.3% in 2020, and 6.6% in 2021

Dattco: \$26,977, holding prices in 2020 and increasing 2% in 2021

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lesley Munshower".

Lesley Munshower  
Recreation Director

**J & D** CIVIL  
ENGINEERS, LLC

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401 Ravenelle Road  
N. Grosvenordale, CT 06255  
www.jdcivilengineers.com  
(860) 923-2920

May 31, 2019

Ken Beausoleil, First Selectman  
Town Hall  
PO Box 899  
North Grosvenordale, CT 06255

Re: Job No. 14161 – Sand Dam Road Culvert Replacement

Dear Mr. Beausoleil:

J & D Civil Engineers, LLC has reviewed the bid and references of the apparent low bidder, Suchocki & Son, Inc. The contractor has indicated that he is not aware of any mistakes or mathematical errors in his bid. His reason for being significantly lower than the second low bidder is valid. His bank reference is on the low side, but the contract documents require that he obtain 100% payment and 100% performance bonds prior to signing the contract, so the Town and subcontractors will be protected. The contractor does not wish to withdraw his bid and there is no reason for the Town to reject it. The contractor provided three references for similar construction projects. Each project involved dewatering streams for culvert and bridge installations. The references all responded with good recommendations. Therefore J & D recommends award to Suchocki & Son, Inc. in the amount of their bid of \$148,617.00.

Very truly yours,

J & D Civil Engineers, LLC



Janet J. Blanchette, PE,  
Principal

Cc: Rich Benoit