Resolution of Interest in Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) for Local Governments in the State of Connecticut

Whereas, a local energy model called Community Choice Aggregation is a proven strategy to expand consumer choice, lower electric rates, and meet state and local environmental goals;

Whereas, Community Choice Aggregation currently exists in nine states (CA, IL, OH, VA, RI, NJ, NY, NH and MA) and is a mechanism by which local governments use aggregate buying power to procure electrical power for municipal, residential and commercial customers in their jurisdictions.

Whereas Community Choice Aggregation work in partnership with the utility, which continues to provide power delivery, grid maintenance, and consolidated customer billing;

Whereas, Community Choice Aggregation currently serves millions of customers around the Country, and consistently exceeds utility performance in the areas of local choice, electric rates, renewable content and greenhouse gas reductions;

Whereas the Connecticut Office of Consumer Counsel has condemned the behavior of some individual retail suppliers marketing to individuals and that CCA is an alternative that can protect consumer interests;

Whereas the benefits of lower electric rates, energy efficiency programs, and economic development that can result from Community Choice Aggregation are of particular value to low and moderate income ratepayers;

Whereas, HB 6241 and HB 7015, two Community Choice Energy bills, were introduced in the Energy and Technology Committee during the 2019 session of the General Assembly and are expected to be reintroduced in 2020;

Whereas Community Choice Aggregation legislation would have no significant negative fiscal impacts on Connecticut or municipalities and provide significant local and regional economic development benefits;

Whereas, Community Choice Aggregation also provides the opportunity to fund and implement a wide variety of local energy programs tailored to the needs of a community; and,

Whereas, Community Choice Aggregation, if determined to be technically and financially feasible for Connecticut cities and towns, could provide substantial environmental and economic benefits to the residents and businesses in [Name of City/County];

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of [Name of Municipality] that:

[Name of Municipality] indicates its interest in the potential for Community Choice Energy in the State of Connecticut and would support the State’s efforts in that regard.
[Name of Municipality] further indicates that state enabling legislation should at a minimum allow a Community Choice Aggregation municipality or group of municipalities to do the following:

- Procure electricity on behalf of the CCA’s residents, businesses, and municipal accounts;
- Automatically enroll residents and businesses that have not already chosen a third-party supplier, but with ample opportunities to opt out;
- Obtain all customer usage information from the utility that the CCA requires to fulfill its purposes;
- Administer all energy efficiency funds paid by customers located within their jurisdictional boundaries for purposes of promoting and funding local energy efficiency programs;
- Obtain funding and develop local renewable energy projects;

Adoption of this Resolution in no way obligates [Name of Municipality] to participate in Community Choice Energy, unless it so chooses by adoption of ordinance if authorized by the State.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of [Name of Municipality], State of Connecticut, this ___ day of ___, 2019 by the following vote: