



EEC Meeting Minutes Feb 25, 2014

Present: Charlie Case, Ben Brickett, Ed Henningsen.

Guests: Jack Murphy, Grant Hirst

Call to order: 4:30 PM, Adjourned 5:30 PM

A. Approval of December and January minutes postponed due to lack of a quorum

B. Public Works Solar PPA Project Tour for new Kittery Town Manager Jan 15, 2014 – Charlie reported on Nancy Colbert Puff's tour of the Garage Solar and the capped landfill site. Joel Moulton, Ben Brickett, Grant Hirst, Charlie Case, and Sherry Walworth were present. Nancy toured our Garage solar installation first and then we moved to the capped landfill field to get her comments on a possible large 4,400 panel system we are proposing to install there. Nancy recently coordinated the installation of a 5,000 panel solar system on a capped landfill in Methuen MA. She told us that Methuen buys power at 8 cents per kwh and assumes ownership of the system after 20 years.

Her comments:

1. She offered to set up a tour for us of the Methuen solar installation and provide us copies of Methuen's legal documents.
2. We must check out the cap carefully to ensure that it can take the load without damaging integrity.
3. Panels are held in place with rails and weights.
4. Make sure the installation company is required to repair any damage to the cap cause by them.
5. Expect it will take a year just to get the details straight.
6. They found out late in the process that Methuen spans two zones in the New England grid so they could not credit power to the Sewage Treatment Plant as planned. As a result they had to find partner towns that could share in purchasing the power. Advice – make sure all planned users are in the same grid zone.
7. Evaluate maintenance – such as mowing needs.
8. Make sure you have multiple bidders.

E. Final Prep-BOS presentation on EEC Energy Savings Strategy & FY15 Budget Review – Charlie distributed final charts that cover both the EEC FY 15 budget request, and the EEC Energy Savings Strategy for the Town of Eliot. The charts were reviewed in detail in preparation for the presentation to the BOS and Budget Committee at 5:30 PM this evening. Grant commented that he has met both South Berwick and Kittery and found that the EEC is more active than the Energy Committees in the other towns; and that we may be asked to share our methodology. He also reported that the KEYS towns may be getting a grant of \$400K to be used for energy reduction projects. Ed suggested that the \$400K may be funds earmarked for the Seacoast Energy Initiative (SEI) loan program.

Approved 3-12-14
C.A. Case