



EEC Meeting Minutes August 13, 2014

Present: Charlie Case, Ben Brickett, Monique Lillis, Ed Henningsen, Jack Murphy

Guests: Dana Lee (Town Manager), Grant Hirst (BOS Liaison), David Springer (Electrical Contractor), Nick Lillis (potential Marshwood Intern)

Call to Order 4:30 PM, Adjourned 6:00 PM

A. March, April, May, June and July minutes were approved

B. Status of Lighting and Weatherization Projects – Dana reported that the bid from Springer Electric was \$49,541.75 thus exceeding our SEI grant of \$45,000. The difference will be taken from the capital budget of \$28,000. Weatherization work with remaining funds will be delayed until the lighting work is completed in September. David Springer had notified Dana that several corrections were needed to the baseline task list and bid. These were 1) addition of the main floor hallway lighting in the Police Station to be upgraded to LED, 2) two additional lighting fixtures for the Fire Chief's office and 3) additional lighting for the Fire Engine high bay. A discussion ensued with confusion as to why the changes were needed. At this point David Springer entered the meeting and explained the corrections. The addition of the Police Station main floor hallway lighting was requested by Police Chief Short on the basis that the hallway lighting is left on most of the time so a change to more efficient LEDs would make sense, 2) Fire Chief Muzeroll had indicated that the Chief's office had four fixtures instead of two, and 3) the lighting in the Fire Engine high bay was listed incorrectly as four foot fixtures instead of eight foot. The change for the Police Station hallway and the Fire Chief's office were clear and accepted. After much discussion, it was decided to change the Fire Engine high bay lighting from LED to efficient T-5 fluorescent on the basis that the high bay lighting would only be on infrequently and this approach would save money with minimal impact to our electric usage. After the changes, the final total was \$53,817.75. It was voted to recommend to the BOS that no more than \$54,000 be spent on the lighting upgrades as now defined. It was also voted to authorize Dana to spend up to \$2,000 from the EEC budget for additional lighting upgrades that may be necessary between now and the end of September when the lighting upgrades will be complete. Dana will present this to the BOS tomorrow.

C. Garage Solar Year End Report from ReVision Energy – Ben reported that solar generation performance for the first year of operation was 100.5% of planned and has met all of its expectations. He commented that performance would have been even better if we had removed a tree which partially blocks one of the panel sections. Ben will review tree removal with Joel Moulton. ReVision Energy put together a professional report which is available.

D. Solar Phase 2 – Dana has received a number of responses from potential bidders for our proposed phase 2 landfill solar. There are additional bidders the EEC would like to include such as ReVision Energy and Seacoast Energy Alternatives. We believe the total is now seven but Ben will review the list and report back at the September meeting. Charlie reported that he is working on a presentation for stakeholders of phase 2 including the Eliot BOS, the MSAD35 School Administration and the S. Berwick Town Manager. He expects to send out a draft presentation soon so that it can be discussed at our September meeting.

Ben asked the EEC to look at an alternative plan for phase 2 which would involve the Town of Eliot paying for the phase 2 installation through a bond and selling green power on the open market at a much higher price than the CMP standard offer – thus making a profit for the Town. It is unknown whether the Maine Public Utilities Commission would allow the Town to effectively become a commercial generator. Dana agreed to contact the PUC and find out what the rules are on this concept.

E. Maine Power Options Contract Renewal – Dana indicated that he is inclined to renew the Town’s contract with Maine Power Options for two years (versus three) on the basis that a longer contract could interfere with our solar phase 2 start. Maine Power Options is an “aggregator” and combines the buying power of a large number of Maine cities and towns to reduce electricity cost. The MPO provider is Constellation New Energy. We use this contract to power some municipal facilities. The Garage solar provides some or all power to others.

F. Inventory Status – Monique reported that she has started the inventory process but has been slowed by changes in suppliers. Examples include: garage solar, heating oil for town buildings and diesel for Public Works trucks. Charlie and Nick Lillis (see paragraph on new Marshwood Intern) agreed to help.

G. Planning for Eliot Festival Day – Charlie reported that he has registered the EEC for a booth space. He suggested the following material for our booth:

- Banner from last year – “Solar Yeah We Got It”
- 2 page handout with charts we did for Town Meeting – also large prints for display
- Poster with photo of Town Garage roof with Solar Panels shown and year 1 performance
- Poster with energy reductions to date and planned reductions
- List of town energy projects from 2010 to date
- Booklets to hand out – energy savers, climate action plan

Nick Lillis volunteered to be at the booth. Ben and Jack agreed to be there part of the day as well.

H. Marshwood Intern - Nick Lillis will be entering his Freshman year at Marshwood HS and has volunteered to be our intern. Dana will put him on the agenda for the BOS meeting on August 28th for BOS approval.

*Approved Oct 8, 2014
C. Q. Case*