



EEC Meeting Minutes November 12, 2014

Present: Charlie Case, Ben Brickett, Ed Henningsen, Jack Murphy, Monique Lillis via Skype, Nick Lillis (intern)

Guest: Grant Hirst (BOS Liaison)

Call to Order 4:30 PM, Adjourned 5:45 PM

- A. October Meeting Minutes were approved

- B. Solar Phase 2 Bidder Responses – Three bids are expected shortly from ReVision Energy, American Capital Energy and Seacoast Energy Alternatives. Dana, Ben and Charlie will meet to review the bids and determine next steps.

3. Phase 2 stakeholder “buy in” – We agreed that we need a legal agreement between Eliot, South Berwick and MSAD35 before we sign any contract with a company to install our phase 2 system. The landfill area can accommodate a minimum of 650,000 watts of solar panels and this would power up to a third of the schools. It was suggested that we could brief all three stakeholders at one of their monthly joint meetings – possibly in December?

4. Volatile Energy Prices – Charlie sent out two articles that do a good job explaining the dilemma with electricity costs; and the reasons that oil prices have dropped so far and so quickly. Our locked in price from Gagnon still looks good. For electricity costs, nobody can predict where electricity rates are headed in the short term but they are expected to rise dramatically. It is noted that NStar in Massachusetts has already asked for a 28% rate increase starting in January. Our solar is looking better and better!

5. Energy Projects - Ed listed projects we would like to complete in FY15 and will provide a prioritized list at the December meeting. We all assumed that we can use the bids we already have from the weatherization contractor to determine costs. Ed will discuss the possible Garage boiler replacement and other energy savings ideas with Joel Moulton. Ben and Nick will discuss options for the Police Station generator engine block heater which uses a large amount of electricity. It is understood that the generator needs to provide backup power immediately when CMP power goes down so that computers and communication is not compromised. Ben will look into types of system backup such as computer UPS units to allow the generator engine some warm up time in colder weather.

6. FY16 Energy Projects - Ed also talked about possible capital energy projects for FY16 and we will finalize a list at our next meeting so Dana can decide what to include in his budget request.

7. FY14 inventory is stalled. Charlie will follow up with Rebecca to get the data we need.

8. Energy Reduction at the Schools - We agreed that we should start working with the schools to identify low hanging fruit on the electricity side. We believe that the schools can save alot using the same techniques we have used on town buildings.

Approved
C. A. Case