

# Beacon Falls Energy Improvement Board

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Surraine B. Heatt

BELOON FALLS TOWN CLETT

10 Maple Avenue, Beacon Falls, Connecticut 06403 Phone: (203) 729 –1441

## BEACON FALLS ENERGY IMPROVEMENT BOARD SEPTEMBER 24, 2009 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

#### SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

### CALL TO ORDER

D. Rybinski called the Special Meeting of the Beacon Falls Energy Improvement Board to order at 6:55 PM.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: A. Bosley-Boyce, R. Bradley, J. Mylen, D. Rybinski

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: J. Burkitt

PUBLIC PRESENT: None,

The purpose of the meeting was to choose an energy supplier for the town, based on the information and pricing received from three companies: Constellation Energy, Glacial Energy and Positive Energy. Updated prices from Constellation Energy and Positive Energy were distributed. The pricing is as of Monday, September 21, 2009.

- J. Mylen had an updated indexed rate from Glacial Energy, and this company shows projected natural gas prices declining in the immediate future. J. Mylen noted that the plus with Glacial is that the town is not locked into a contract.
- R. Bradley pointed out that with the indexed product, once their rates escalate, the fixed rate suppliers will also be increasing their rates, so the town has lost the opportunity to lock in a lower fixed rate. The commission agreed to focus only on the two companies that offer a fixed all in rate.

A.Bosley-Boyce read a statement from Emily Neill from Constellation Energy which spoke to the fact that due to the size of Constellation, they are in the news and responded to articles on litigation pending against Constellation. D. Rybinski supports the smaller company over the large company.

- D. Rybinski asked about the term of 12, 24, or 36 months and noted that in the pricing that was received there is less than a penny difference between the one year and three year rates. He is in favor of the 3 year term and dealing with the local company. The board agreed on the benefits of a 3 year rate, based on the figures they received.
- R. Bradley confirmed with D. Rybinski that Positive Energy's rate towards municipalities is fixed all in. A. Bosley-Boyce asked if Positive Energy represents other municipalities. She wished that there had been a face to face meeting with Positive Energy. R. Bradley agreed that his comfort level with the company would improve if the company had been present at a meeting.

The pricing that Positive Energy and Constellation Energy provided are comparable. D. Rybinski looked into Positive Energy's record with DPUC. A. Bosley-Boyce asked how long Positive Energy has been in business and D. Rybinski confirmed that the company is young and employs local residents. R. Bradley asked about the aspect of Positive Energy as an aggregator, while Constellation is a supplier.

As the discussion concluded on these points, J. Mylen expressed his support of Positive Energy. A. Bosley-Boyce agreed with J. Mylen, and her main concern is that no one from Positive Energy came to speak to the board. Her other questions are what other municipalities do they serve and will they be in business in three years. R. Bradley weighed in on the pros and cons of choosing Positive Energy, as well. D. Rybinski does not want to delay the process and has been in favor of Positive Energy from the start, as the local small business. He is looking towards the future with natural gas rates which will initially decline, and then climb, and as the rates stand, the town will save considerable money.

J. Mylen's suggested that the board chooses Positive Energy, provided that a representative from the company meets with the commission to answer their remaining questions. R. Bradley made a formal motion to recommend Positive Energy to the Selectmen, contingent upon Positive Energy meeting with the commission to answer questions to the board's satisfaction, no later than Friday, October 2nd. J. Mylen seconded the motion. D. Rybinski will contact Positive Energy.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

D. Rybinski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM. R. Bradley seconded the motion. All ayes.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin A. Schwarz

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Clerk, Energy Improvement Board