

Lee Energy Committee Meeting Minutes March 14, 2018 Public Safety Building 1:00 pm

Present: Barb Wauchope, Chair Sharon Meeker, Lou Grondin and Mary Woodward

Guest: Jana Petrikova

Discussion:

Chair Sharon Meeker called the meeting to order.

Barb mentioned her intent to attend the annual NH Energy Breakfast in Concord on March 15.

Sharon noted that the solar panel and offshore wind warrants had passed, and commended the group for their efforts. Mary will write a related news summary to distribute.

Lou Grondin reported that Revision Energy had notified him that updated bid on the panels is ready and slated to arrive by March 23, 2018. He will contact designated Revision personnel to track its progress. The group reviewed the capacity of the intended system: with the LED lighting upgrades to the Transfer Station and the PSC, there should be excess capacity to partly serve the needs of the new town hall or other Lee town needs.

Sharon will attend the March 26 Select Board meeting to thank the selectmen for their support of the warrants. Jana expressed her concern that the town's excess renewable energy (in the form of Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)) can be sold to purchasers who don't use renewable energy systems. The group agreed that this is not ideal, but perhaps at least helps reduce the fossil fuel load on the environment.

Jana reported that she had phone conferenced with representatives of other towns who participated in the Energize 360 program.

- a) Related to the solar PV portion of the program, Lee earned 13 bonus panels, which can either be donated to a group project or reserved for use in Lee. The group consensus of the other towns is to donate the bonus panels to the Dover Children's Museum for its use, both for energy and for educational programs about solar energy. The preference of the Lee Energy Committee is to participate in the group contribution to the Dover Children's Museum. Sharon will check with Julie about which other groups in Lee should have input into the decision about the use of Lee's bonus panels.
- b) For the energy efficiency bonus component of Energize 360, the 360 towns decided that either the Great Bay Discovery Center or My Friend's Place are the top candidate recipients for donation of this project component. The LEC's preference is for My Friend's Place because the shelter reaches a broader community.
- c) For Lee's participation in the group project, the LEC has the following requests: i) we would like to be recognized as the Town of Lee for donating the panels and the

materials to EE project, we would like to be listed at the public display of the project: ii) we would like the solar project to result in an interactive, hands-on display in the DCM; iii) we would want to schedule an educational tour for Lee residents to learn about the projects.

Related to the 2017- 18 Lee town budget LEC allocation, the committee reviewed Lou's updated bid information for LED retrofits and lighting at the PSC and Transfer Station, including projected total costs with rebate, estimated savings, payback periods and projected durability/life span for high- and low-use lighting. Based on the numbers and Lou's assessment, the committee voted to recommend Revision Energy as the preferred vendor for the project. Related to questions from committee members, Lou will finalize the information sheet, from which Jana will prepare summary spreadsheet for next-stage discussion, which Sharon will initiate, with the Lee BOS and the Trustees of the Trust Fund.

Lou reported that he has obtained a revised (and more cost effective) bid from Yankee Thermal for insulation of the Transfer Station office. With the rebate currently available for projects that qualify, the total amount of the project should be approximately \$4,000. Lou will check with the contact at NHEC about the rebate cut-off criteria and with Yankee Thermal about obtaining an energy audit, to clarify/document the project's cost/benefit to the BOS. Lou emphasized that the rebate is available only as long as the designated fund lasts.

Barb reported that she is updating the town energy bill data in the EPA Portfolio Manager database and, as part of the process, approaching Eversource and NHEC to arrange for automatic input of the data on a monthly basis as billing occurs, including the name(s) of designated contacts in the event of any issues/questions.

Mary reported that the next education session (with Michael Mooiman, an engineer/energy finance MBA of Franklin Pierce) has been scheduled for April 30. Sharon asked everyone to think about subjects for future outreach programs so that the committee could discuss the topic at the next LEC meeting.