



# Medway Energy Committee

Town of Medway  
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**Frank Faist, Chair**  
**Shelley Wieler, Vice Chair**  
**David Brownell, Member**  
**Peter Cooper, Member**  
**Jeff Herman, Member**  
**Beth McDonald, Member**  
**Charlie Myers, Member**  
**Jack Robinson, Member**

Approved: 12/14/2011

## Meeting Minutes: November 16, 2011 Medway Senior Center

**Call to Order:** This meeting was called to order by Chair Frank Faist at 6:50 p.m.

### **Attendees:**

	6/21/11	9/21/11	10/19/11	11/16/11	12/14/11	1/18/12	2/15/12	3/21/12	4/11/12	5/16/12	6/20/12
<b>Frank Faist</b>	X	X	X	X							
<b>Shelley Wieler</b>	X	X	X	X							
<b>Dave Brownell</b>	X	X		X							
<b>Peter Cooper</b>		X	X	X							
<b>Jeff Herman</b>		X	X								
<b>Beth McDonald</b>	X			X							
<b>Charlie Myers</b>	X	X	X	X							
<b>Jack Robinson</b>	X		X								

**Update on Green Community Grants:** Town Administrator Kennedy provided the committee with an update on the receipt and implementation of the Green Community grant. She reported that the Town was notified in August 2011 that it was awarded \$158,500 and they are in the process of implementing the grant.

- Library HVAC controls – The quote for this project is \$31,200 and they are eligible for \$13,000 in rebates. They are hoping to repurpose the remaining money that was budgeted for this project. The contract is going to the Board of Selectmen for their approval.
- Window installation at the Water Department – They budgeted \$15,000 for this project but the quote came in under budget at \$13,700.
- Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) for water pumps – One has been installed at the Industrial Park and another will be installed at Village Street at the end of the week.
- Audit – An audit was conducted at both Fire Stations, Town Hall, the Senior Center, The DPS garage, and the Police Station.

- Energy audit implementation – They have budgeted \$30k for this project.
- Light replacement – They are still evaluating their options and looking at alternatives to LEDs. They plan to replace more than 700 bulbs.
- Anti-idling devices – They are still evaluating the options. The DOER suggested three additional vendors for the Town to consider.

**Kearsarge Energy Presentation:** Andrew Bernstein and Everett Tatelbaum from Kearsarge Solar spoke to the committee about a proposed solar project in Bellingham. Kearsarge plans to build a 30 acre solar farm in Bellingham at the intersection of Maple and High Streets and sell the energy to several towns. Medway has the opportunity to participate in this project and buy discounted electricity. The Board of Selectmen asked the Energy Committee to review the proposal and make a recommendation as to whether this is a good opportunity for Medway. Andrew and Everett explained that this project involves virtual net metering and is purely a paper transaction. Medway still continue to purchase their electricity through the same providers, the same way they always have, it will just be billed differently. Kearsarge guarantees a 10% savings with a 20 year Power Purchase Agreement (PPA). They estimate that Medway can save about \$55,000 annually. Medway would need to commit to buy a certain percentage of their electricity from Kearsarge over the 20 year PPA. Kearsarge would like Medway to commit to buy 70-80% of its total electricity from them. Andrew explained that Kearsarge would be responsible for maintenance of the solar panels and for restoring the land to its original condition after the 20 year agreement. The committee discussed the disadvantages of the program, including the Town having to commit to buy a large percentage of its electricity for 20 years and the possibility of a better technology coming along in the next 20 years. Andrew said he would forward a sample PPA for the committee's review next week. The committee said it would be important to review the project's funding, further discuss what percentage of electricity the Town is willing to commit to buy, and insure that the contract contains a performance clause. The committee pointed out that the biggest risk is if the Town commits to buy a large percentage of their electricity over the next 20 years and there is a dramatic decrease in the Town's power consumption. The committee would also like to explore the possibility of reselling any electricity that they do not use and have this stipulation incorporated into the contract.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by Charlie Myers, seconded by Shelley Wieler, to approve the Medway Energy Committee meeting minutes of October 19, 2011. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Trane Analysis:** Charlie Myers applauded Chairman Faist for his work on this project. Chairman Faist reported that that he was sent the full Trane report but the file was too large for his server to accept. Administrator Kennedy said she would forward the report to the committee. The committee reviewed the analysis and revised the report that Chairman Faist prepared. The committee discussed the stipulations that were part of the contract with Trane that the Medway Public Schools did not adhere to, including the setback temperature and automatic computer shutdown. The committee agreed that the setback temperature was unreasonable considering the size of the building and that there was discussion at the time that the contract was executed that it would be difficult to comply with. Chairman Faist reported that it appears that Medway is meeting the savings but it can mostly be attributed to reduced energy costs and not reduced demand. The committee discussed designating a specific building for evening meetings and speaking with Rich Boucher about implementing the automatic shutdown for the computer system. The committee plans to invite Dave Verdolino and Jim MacLean to the December meeting to discuss the analysis. The committee will present their report to the Board of Selectmen in January.

**Middle School Repair Update:** The committee discussed possibly using some of the Green Community grant to pay for the cost of having the project engineers put together the information the Energy Committee is

requesting. The committee is waiting for the DOER to release the annual report format to see exactly what information is needed.

**Kill-A-Watt Program Update:** Dave Brownell reported that the Kill-A-Watt meters have been checked out 32 times since the inception of the program. The library had to take down the sign due to its size but requested a smaller sign. The committee also discussed advertising the program on the Town website and the local cable channel.

**Bylaw:** Selectman John Foresto said that the Board of Selectmen really appreciates the work of the Energy Committee. They are not inclined to sponsor a bylaw at this point but will not sign off on any energy related projects unless they have been reviewed the Energy Committee. He said the Board of Selectmen believes the committee’s role is to review energy related projects, perform analysis, make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen, and help them prioritize.

**Future Agenda Items:**

- Discuss Trane data with Dave Verdolino and Jim MacLean
- Make recommendation to the Board of Selectmen on the Bellingham solar project

**Action Items:** The committee reviewed the action items from the October 19, 2011 meeting and identified those that are still outstanding.

Action	Assigned to	Deadline
Follow-up with DOER on deadline to submit annual report and format of the report	Shelley	Ongoing
F/U with MSBC on single commissioning and cost and also get copy of commissioning plan	Shelley	ASAP
Add Energy Committee term limits to BOS agenda	Suzanne	ASAP
Invite Dave Verdolino and Jim MacLean to December meeting	Frank	ASAP
Review Frank’s report and analysis and forward any revisions/comments to Frank	All committee members	ASAP
Forward copy of sample PPA from Kearsarge	Suzanne	Upon receipt
Forward Trane doc	Suzanne	ASAP
Forward Kearsarge presentation	Suzanne	Upon receipt
Relative to Kearsarge – can Medway resell any energy that they do not use	Suzanne/Frank	
Forward quarterly report to committee that Town submitted relative to Green Community	Suzanne	ASAP
Forward audit report that was conducted as part of Green Community grant	Suzanne	ASAP

Smaller Kill-A-Watt sign for library	Dave	ASAP
Send info on Kill-A-Watt program to Town and cable channel to advertise	Dave	ASAP
Reserve Sanford Hall or School Committee Room for December meeting	Michelle	ASAP
F/U with Dennis on memo of understanding and payback	Shelley	ASAP

**Adjournment:** With no further business before this Committee, a motion was made and unanimously passed to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Reed  
Administrative Assistant