

Minutes  
Energy Advisory Committee  
Date: 20 January 2012

TOWN CLERK  
12 FEB 24 PM 3:17  
MUNICIPALITY, MASS.

Present: Sharon Anderson, Rick Bedard, Laurie Connors,  
Rob McNeil, Brad Turner

Absent: Jim Dunn, Bob Blackman

Call to Order: 8:45 AM

Acceptance of Past Minutes: Rick motioned to approve the Minutes of 16 November 2011; Brad seconded. Unanimous vote.

The minutes of 12 July 2011 and 11 August 2011 will be approved at the next meeting.

Old Business:

- I. Discussion of the Green Communities Grant Allocation
  - Laurie reported that the contract had begun on 14 December 2011 and had an end date of 13 April 2013 although all work must be completed by 31 December 2012.
  - The first check of \$83,512 was due any day now; the second check (25% more) of \$41,756 would be granted at the completion of 75% of all projects; and the final \$41,756 would be granted when all projects are complete.
  - Lighting on the Town Hall is a priority with the slightly scaled down LED projects (Town hall, Library, Common and High School) coming next.
  - On 25 January, Laurie and Rick are meeting with *National Grid* (Scott Farrar) and *HVAC* (Steve Cammuso) about the reconditioning project (Town Hall's boiler keeps running; perhaps investigate the high school's boiler, too.)
  - A discussion ensued about whether to complete these projects separately or together. Rick believes in simplifying things and wishes to run with the *Control Project* through *National Grid*.
  - In addition, he will investigate the LED project. Laurie believes that maintenance is not included in the light costs.
  - As for the *Vending Miser Project*, Laurie will complete this through the Town's contracted electrician
  - Rob McNeil will prepare a press release about all these activities.

## II. Discussion of Solar Farm Bylaw

- Laurie distributed the Proposed Solar Bylaw (Section 51. Large-Scale Ground mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations). She utilized input from around the country and other wind turbine by-laws. Ideas also came from Jim Dunn.
- Laurie asked the Committee to look over these suggestions and get back to her by e-mail by Monday 23 January.
- Rob had four suggestions at this time:
  - 1) Under 51.5 Application Procedure #7 Proof of liability insurance: perhaps do this through the Town's insurance; what should be carried as a minimum?; name the Town.
  - 2) Under 51.6 Design Standards and Siting Requirements #4: perhaps look into mini-mesh fencing as less expensive and more effective.
  - 3) Perhaps language could be added to re-visit costs every five years.
  - 4) Perhaps TIF's could be investigated in lieu of taxes for the pilot of this program? He proposed that Laurie contact Lynn Tokarczyk who had once run such a program through the State.

## III. Update on 29 McGrath Road, the Proposed Solar Farm

- Brad inquired if the use of this property as a solar farm would keep it from ever becoming a housing development in the future. Laurie replied that a solar farm is only a temporary condition and that houses could indeed come in someday.

## IV. Update on Butler Farm Wind Turbine Feasibility Study

- The wind speed results of the Met Tower are not particularly encouraging at this time, but there are many months to go yet.

New Business: It was decided that all future meetings will take place on the third Friday of each month beginning at 9:00 AM.

Adjournment: 9:45 AM

Next Meeting: Friday 17 February 2012 at 9:00 AM

*D. Bedard*  
*Kevin*  
*Brad*  
*Robert*