



Renewable Energy Committee
January 26, 2012 - Minutes

Mary Jane Curran called the meeting of January 26, 2012 of the Orleans Renewable Energy Committee to order at 4:01PM in the Skaket Meeting Room at the Orleans Town Hall.

ORLEANS TOWN CLERK

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Present: Jim Hungerford, David Hubbard, Richard Philbrick, Mary Jane Curran, Chris Galazzi, Sims McGrath, BOS liaison, and Paul Rooker, Finance Com. liaison.

Absent; Dave Abel, John Jannell, Conservation Dept. liaison.

Chair Mary Jane Curran opened the meeting with the reading of an email from John Jannell who was not able to attend. John mentioned that the process of selecting a contractor for the Cape and Vineyard Electric Cooperative's (CVEC), Phase II ground mounted solar panel installation had reached the one contractor decision. The total project involves a 30MW project spread over a number of towns. There is a meeting today, Jan. 26 to proceed further. John mentioned there is presently a cap (NStar tariff cap) on energy generated by renewables at 150MW for the state. 100MW have been set aside for municipalities. 10MW is the cap for a single municipality. There are 33 projects on line currently with another 151 being proposed.

The Orleans Town landfill is a site A priority for a 1.7-acre project with the watershed site priority B for a 3.2-acre project. The watershed project will require an Article 97 authorization from the state for permission for construction. The CVEC project is pursuing priority levels A and B and will supply the wording to the Towns requiring Warrants Articles passage. John J. will attend the Renewable Energy Committee's February 9 meeting to update the Committee on further developments.

A discussion of John J., Sims McGrath, and Mary Jane C. agreed that having a third party (Borrego Solar) is good for the process as it makes more information available to make a good decision.

Sims McGrath and John Jannell proposed a generic Warrant Article should be written with flexibility that would achieve Article 97 passage but allow for future projects within the watershed. Sims McGrath commented that Article 97 was pursued during a past application for the wind turbines in the watershed. The application needs to apply for general authorization but must indicate definite locations and purpose in order for the project to achieve legislative approval.

The NStar Tariff Cap of 150MW should be reached within the next 18 months, which may reduce incentives for renewable energy projects. All projects, which are over \$50,000 and cover more than 3 years, require Orleans Town Meeting approval to continue.

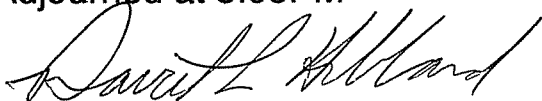
Jim Hungerford commented that he believes that Borrego Solar is very interested for a project in Orleans but that currently CVEC has an advantage. There was a discussion about out of town projects such as a "Solar garden." These could be advantageous in the future to Towns without land or space to locate large projects.

New Business;

A discussion about a wind turbine project in Kingston, MA occurred which could supply power for off-site municipalities occurred. There are 3 wind turbines being constructed in Kingston that will produce more power than the town can utilize and they are looking for "host customers." A one-time payment of \$50,000 would be offered. There was no interest in this project.

Minutes of January 12, 2012 were approved by 6-0-0 votes

Adjourned at 5:05PM

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David L. Hubbard".

David L. Hubbard, clerk