



Renewable Energy Committee
March 5, 2012 - Minutes
Special Meeting

Mary Jane Curran called the Special Meeting of March 5, 2012 of the Orleans Renewable Energy Committee to order at 4:00PM in the Skaket Meeting Room at the Orleans Town Hall.

ORLEANS TOWN CLERK
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Present: Victor Noerdlinger, David Hubbard, Mary Jane Curran, Chris Galazzi, David Abel, Jim Hungerford, John Jannell, Conservation, liaison, Paul Rooker, Finance Com. liaison, and John Kelly, Town Admin. Past member Ken Rowell and Patrick Cassidy of the Cape Cod Times were also present.

Absent: Dick Philbrick, Sims McGrath, BOS

Chair Mary Jane Curran opened the meeting by summarizing the request by the Committee to meet with John Kelly and Town Counsel, Michael Ford.

Instead, Mary Jane, Sims McGrath, and Chris Galazzi met on Friday, March 2 to discuss the recommendation made when Sims McGrath met with Town Counsel and Mr. Kelly: to present three Warrant Articles to the spring meeting. One would be for the parcel at the landfill site, the second for the site on the watershed property and a third to request relief from Article 97. John estimates that the watershed site will take one to two to get an exemption from Article 97 before anything can be started. The landfill site will require approval of the Board of Health. In addition John K. suggested the inclusion of a generic Article in the Special Town meeting "To see if the Town of Orleans will authorize the Board of Selectmen to proceed with the preparation of a request for proposals for solar energy projects or to take any other action relative to." John K. estimated a RFP could cost

\$25-30,000. If the Selectmen approve this process, it would then require the approval of the voters at the fall 2012 Town Meeting.

John Jannell then mentioned that the CVEC contract has been finalized. No numbers are currently available but they should be out by Thursday, March 7th's meeting. The draft warrant article that was distributed to the committee two weeks ago was a sample of one that was drafted for Chatham by CVEC. The Orleans Article would be similar but would include Orleans' specifications. John Kelly explained the procedure for the bidding process for the Town. That contractual language and terms differ and to compare numbers from different packages is difficult to do because one has to see all the portions of the contract.

Jim Hungerford questioned the methods of the current CVEC project. He pointed out that a private business would have a hard time surviving if it operated this way. Jim also requested that the town visit some of the CVEC's chosen bidder Broadway Electric projects and ask about performance and history. Victor Noerdlinger and David Abel supported Jim's proposal. David A. commented on the committee being "under the gun" having to wait and make a decision at the last minute. It is difficult with little or no information to make quality decisions.

John J. commented that Orleans' unique Town Charter requirements make it difficult working with the CVEC's process. No other Town has the same process as Orleans. John K. mentioned that nothing could really go forward until after the citizen's vote at the May Town Meeting. John also mentioned that the committee cannot and should not have any contact with a private company while the Town is negotiating with CVEC.

Adjourned at 5:00PM


David L. Hubbard, Clerk