



Renewable Energy Committee
October 25, 2012 - Minutes

Chair Jim Hungerford called the meeting of October 25, 2012 of the Orleans Renewable Energy Committee to order at 4:08PM in the Skaket Meeting Room at the Orleans Town Hall.

ORLEANS TOWN CLERK
'12 NOV 8 3:46PM

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Present: Jim Hungerford, Dave Hubbard, David Abel, Dick Philbrick, Paul Rooker, Finance Com. liaison.

Absent: Chris Galazzi, Victor Noerdlinger .

Liaisons John Jannell, Conservation Finance; and Sims McGrath, Board of Selectmen.

Chair Jim Hungerford had sent John Jannell a list of questions on the CVEC solar projects in Orleans and received a return email with the answers. There is now about 3.5 acres at the landfill designated for possible development. Several other small areas have been identified for additions to the initial project area. There is still a 3.5 acre and two other smaller areas of .3 and .9 acres identified at the watershed. The watershed will still need the Article 97 relief and the initial site may have to be enlarged to allow "more trees to be cut" so the sun can "access" the solar panels in the winter when the sun is low in the sky. Committee is checking into a possible visit to the watershed on some Friday. Jim H. is going to check with Todd "Bunzick".

The Town and CVEC are in negotiations again because of the change in the original contract to include the option of the Town to purchase the solar array at varying time frames in the future. The landfill is progressing and has numerous steps which will probably require an end of year final contract. Broadway Electric, the contractor, can start negotiations with Nstar for the needed major electrical connections. Jim H. commented that

CVEC does have a list of steps which are required and is hopeful that John Jannell will send status of steps to the OREC.
CVEC is still interested in the watershed.

JimH. stated that the 3 year plan(2013-15) of Cape Light Compact needs to be approved by the State of MA. before it can really move forward. Slated for early Jan. 2013.

There was discussion by the OREC on the process of the Town and CVEC in negotiations for the Towns purchase of the solar arrays at years 7,10, 15, or 20 and what might some of the ramifications be.

Short discussion on an article from California on a system of increasing energy use as an energy driver for the State.

Discussion on the possible award of the watershed project to a third party and the need to have a Request For Proposal (RFP) completed by the town. Jim H. was going to write a letter/memo to John Jannell concerning the Town's preparation of an RFP and third party involvement. There is a need for a hired consultant.

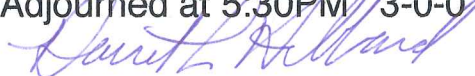
Approval of the minutes of 10-11-12 by 3-0-1 vote. D. Philbrick abstained.

Committee discussion of wind energy included the size of turbines, location, and noise produced. Jim H. commented on his experience with turbine sizes, which affect the (Sound Power) and the (Sound Pressure Levels) produced .

Wind turbines also produce low frequency sounds <20Hz that do affect some people, depending upon their location relative to the wind turbines and their tolerance for motion disturbances or sickness. The present MA specification for siting wind turbines does not address infrasound.

Wind turbine sizes have a large impact on Sound Power Levels and consequently Sound Pressure Levels.

Adjourned at 5:30PM 3-0-0 vote


David L. Hubbard, clerk