



Renewable Energy Committee  
April 25, 2013 – Minutes

Chair Jim Hungerford called the meeting of April 25, 2013 of the Orleans Renewable Energy Committee to order at 4:05PM in the Skaket Meeting Room at the Orleans Town Hall.

ORLEANS TOWN CLERK

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Present: Jim Hungerford, Dave Hubbard, Victor Noerdlinger, Chris Galazzi. Interested public, Paul Cass. Also representatives from Blue Wave Capital; Aidan Foley and John Devillars

Absent: David Abel, Dick Philbrick, Paul Rooker, Finance Committee; Liaisons John Jannell, Conservation; and Sims McGrath, BOS.

Chair Hungerford opened meeting with review of his presentation to the Board of Selectmen(BOS) on April 17th. Victor N. and Paul Cass also attended the meeting. Jim then gave an update on information he has received from Brewster including a list of potential bidders on a Request for Proposal(RFP) and documents which should make it easier for Orleans to propose a new solar panel installation project. Jim explained that the town is at a fork in the road on the new project proposal located around the water treatment plant and "relief from Article 97" is needed in order to proceed. Could Orleans get by without the relief? Jim had researched the Article 97 text on the State of Mass. website and had a copy of the actual text which he read to the committee. See attachment "An Act to protect... etc".

Discussion ensued on the different ways of achieving the completion of the water treatment site project.

1. The Developer Model - The "developer" would complete the project by removing necessary trees and preparing the site. The company would lease the site from the town and receive the SREC's. The town would apply for the Article 97 relief for the project.

2. The Town Model - The Town would finance the project(no lease required) and would be able to use the SREC's. Town would apply for the Article 97 relief. All power produced would go to powering the water treatment plant.
3. The Solar Farm Model - The construction of a solar panel "farm" that is within the home town or constructed in another town within the energy server's service district. With the use of "virtual net metering" the energy produced by the "farm" can be directed to the participating towns. Blue Wave commented that towns could/should start to consolidate services. Blue Wave also commented that Request for Quotations(RFQ) would give a town the most flexibility in these types of procurements.

Jim asked Blue Wave for the specific descriptions and rules for issuing RFPs and RFQs for municipal projects. See attachment "Notes on benefits of MGL 25A & 111)". The OREC should forward these documents along to BOS and the Town Admin.

Jim then explained that the current solar project at the landfill site is moving along however slowly. Discussion mentioned that usually the Department of Environmental Protection(DEP) requires a post closure permit. Has this been requested by the town or CVEC yet ? If the landfill is planned for another activity after closure, appropriate measures are required. Blue Wave questioned whether CVEC and Broadway Electric had the necessary funding to proceed with this project ?

Jim would like to present various proposals/models to the BOS ( at a future BOS meeting) and then invite a company similar to Blue Wave to present the program details and answer any questions the BOS may have.

The minutes of 4-11-13 were approved by 4-0-0 vote.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25PM

David L. Hubbard clerk