

**Meeting Minutes** (approved 10/27/14, 5-0)  
**Wayland Energy Initiatives Advisory Committee**  
**Monday, September 29, 2014**  
**7:30 p.m.**  
**Senior Center**

**Members present:** Bill Huss, Tom Sciacca, Anne Harris, Harvey Michaels, Ellen Tohn

**Ex-officio Member absent:** John Moynihan

Also present:

Ameresco: Harold Meyer, Mike Zimmer, Luis Alegria

Wayland residents: John Harper, Corinne Lenk, Mike Staiti

Permanent Municipal Building Committee: Eric Sheffels

### **Municipal Solar Projects**

Mike Zimmer presented Ameresco's proposal for municipal solar projects, with cost projections. The model used is for all three projects taken together, and incentives and pricing would be different if projects were decoupled. The town would pay the electric rates shown in the table but receive the net metering rate credit (it is currently about \$.23/kWh) from NSTAR for any power produced, resulting in a savings to the town in the first year of \$118,774. There would be a tax adder, but it could be financially structured in different ways.

- *Middle School roof:* The structural engineer hired by Ameresco determined that there is no spare load capacity in the roof, so rooftop panels will not be an option. TS asked about flexible lighter panels, but LA noted the two companies that made them are out of business, and in fact the roof does not meet current code, so NO additional weight can be supported. They are still investigating whether there would be a simple structural enhancement to allow panels, but the outlook is not good.
- *Alternative Middle School sites:* Ameresco proposed a number of parking lot canopies in the Middle School parking lot as an alternative, as we have received technical assistance to examine solar backup power for the generator at the Middle School as part of a Clean Energy Resiliency grant. There was much discussion about the potential issues that would need to be explored with this option: how will it affect plowing? Will icicles or falling snow be an issue? ES suggested removing the middle of the three rows as that is where folks might be walking. TS will check in with Stubby about these issues. Ameresco will send details on clearances, etc. Also suggested was to consider the grassy center area. MZ will look into this. Last, we discussed the piece of land to the north of the Middle School driveway from Route 126; ET recalls that ConComm had made improvements to this land that might disallow this use.
- *New DPW building roof:* This roof has plenty of structural capacity to support panels. ES mentioned we should present to his Committee (PMBC) but expects their concerns will be: does it affect the roof warranty or damage the roof in any way? And is there an end of life provision. (MZ-yes—Ameresco removes after 20 years unless town wants to purchase)
- *Slope near high school wastewater leach field:* MZ presented new layout and mentioned there would be no need for a tall foul ball fence as they looked into stronger panels that could withstand a baseball hit. Fence would just be standard 6' security fence.

The Energy Committee agreed the following Boards and people should be consulted and will arrange meetings as noted:

Permanent Municipal Building Committee—ET

Board of Public Works—AH

Board of Health—meeting 9/30; AH and TS attending

DPW—TS will consult with Steven Kadlik (Stubby)

Board of Public Works—after our 10/ meeting—AH

School Committee—ET

Board of Selectmen—ET—will likely need to meet twice; once soon and once toward end

Emergency Preparedness Committee—CL

Park/Rec—AH

A motion was made that: The Energy Initiatives Advisory Committee supports further investigation of the following three sites for solar PV and recommends bringing to appropriate committees and the Board of Selectmen for their input:

1. Middle School parking lot and center island
2. New DPW building roof
3. Slope between baseball diamond and high school wastewater treatment plant leach field

The motion passed 5-0.

The Committee discussed what kind of review we felt was required of the PPA (Power Purchase Agreement). We do have a small amount of Owner's agent grant money for this review (about \$5000). It was decided that John Harper and Mike Staiti, as experts in their fields of solar financing and development, would review the PPA first to winnow down the questions and concerns we might have. We could then turn to an Owner's Agent to answer the following questions:

1. Are we getting a good deal? Benchmark proposal/price against other towns
2. Are the terms and conditions of the PPA good for Wayland and similar to other towns'?

The Committee then moved to include Mike Staiti as an associate member of the Energy Initiatives Advisory Committee to assist us in the municipal solar effort, until that effort is completed. (John Harper and Corinne Lenk has been previously appointed; all are awaiting the approval of the Board of Selectmen). The motion passed 5-0.

### **Clean Energy Resiliency Grant**

CL will update MAPC as to changes in solar proposal for Middle School; confirm if grant must be renewable energy. Deadline for grant is Oct. 29. Motion made to pursue the Resiliency grant if there is no downside to the town. Passed 5-0.

### **Miscellaneous**

Minutes from 9/10/14 approved 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9 pm.

ARH 10/6/14