

Town of Derry, NH

Energy & Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

July 28, 2014

Attendees: Maureen Reno, Tom Morini, Marc Flattes, Chris Cox, Tom Cardon, Jim Ricker & Peter Pendak (a citizen observer).

1. Call to Order
2. Motion to accept minutes from June 16, 2014 meeting by Marc. Second by Maureen. Minutes approved.
3. Chairman's Report
 - a. Maureen received an email from Mike Fowler containing a memo on the Municipal Center electricity usage. The memo stated that the Town was able to reduce electricity consumption in the Municipal Center by approx. 9% with a 17% reduction in cost by way of some simple programming changes to the controls system. Variable frequency drive (VFDs) were connected to the energy management system to better control when blowers were turned on and off
 - b. Maureen and Marc met with Mike Fowler and learned that the budget now is approx. \$20K for the LED, street light project. Seems that the fixtures are fine, just need to replace bulbs.
 - c. Adams Memorial Building was also discussed. No need to replace windows now since they were replaced in 2001. They will install R21 insulation in "attic" crawl space and reinforce the roof's structural supports. Mike expects a 20% reduction in heating bills.
 - d. Mike has received proposals regarding the Transfer Station from seven firms and will narrow down to three. Hoping to make a final decision by September. Hope to have LEED cert., by possibly using recycled steel, and maximizing daylighting.
 - e. Mike Fowler asked EEAC for some help in assessing the feasibility of putting PV array on the old landfill in Town. It is a 13 acre site with a subset of the 13 acres not usable for this purpose. Some discussion about deterioration of the older section's cap and the steepness of parts of the newer landfill. There was some discussion about the vendors that met today with some members of the EEAC for a site walk through. Sounded like roughly 5 acres would be available for development and that this would typically support a 1 MW PV installation. Jim Ricker talked some about the methods of financing these types of projects. Members of the committee agreed that NH is unique in some aspects, particularly the low value of NH renewable energy certificates or credits relative to neighboring states. Marc talked some about net metering and mentioned that there would likely need to be some environmental impact assessment for wildlife in this effort. Marc also mentioned the need for a 1000 square foot building for transformers and inverter gear that would need to be built on the site. There is some 3

phase power nearby but it would likely need to be extended some. Tom Cardon raised some concern about gas vents on the land fill and the need to preserve their function.

- f. Maureen opened discussion on the list Marc had created outlining some responsibilities for the Committee relating to the report we need to draft for this PV project assessment. Marc points out that the report must encompass all aspects of developing this PV array on the landfill. Marc indicates that in reality the best use of this land may not be to erect a PV array. He also is open to the idea of a land lease to the developers. An extensive discussion about the economics of landfill based PV arrays follows, with all members present contributing. Part of this discussion included size of the array and some unique issues relating to financing PV in NH.
- g. Near the end of this discussion Marc suggests going to two meetings a month for the next few months. Tom Morini suggests just scheduling longer meetings. Maureen wants everyone to look at their assigned sections and begin to do some investigation.

4. Old Business

- a. Some discussion about the feedback from Mike Fowler regarding the protocol and process document this committee discussed and approved that talked about around project management.
- b. There was brief discussion about some new apartments about to be approved that are on the road to the existing landfill and the fact that we may want to pick a different spot this coming year for the garbage pick-up route. Tom Cardon suggests Town parking lots, as a very effective place to conduct this type of rubbish pick up events.

5. New Business

- a. Derry Fest is Sept 20th. Chris Cox working on the booth for EEAC. There was some discussion about how to get the funds to register for this event considering that the committee now has a Town Council approved budget effective fiscal year 2015. Maureen was also considering printing new brochures for Derry Fest but it may be possible we have enough now.
- b. Some discussion about Energy Savings for the Home event.
- c. Chris makes motion to adjourn meeting. Jim seconds. Meeting adjourned.