

Aug 19 2010
Gill Energy Commission Meeting -

Committee members present: Chair, Claire Chang, Ivan Ussach, Tupper Brown, Pam Lester

Guests: Randy Crochier, Nancy Griswold, Valeria Smith, Ronnie LaChance, Ray Purington, John Ward

Claire Chang convened the meeting at 6 pm

Meeting Minutes from May 17, 2010

Pam moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Ivan. All in favor.

Ivan agreed to serve as committee Secretary at those meetings he attends; Pam to serve as 2nd.

Siemens energy savings performance contract:

Ray: Presented "Where we are at". Aug 9 draft performance contract (legal-sized handout)--shows all buildings Siemens has looked at and types of work considered; Those not selected were due to long payback, not good for recovering payback within about a 20 year period.

Elementary school projects --some are beyond 20 years but the state grant money makes it feasible.

Ray: Building envelope - means sealing around doors, leaky; adding insulation into roof areas; Siemens doesn't do walls or windows --does include attic, cellar, etc. Includes some window related work in Riverside bldg.

No final scope of work as of yet.

Tupper asked if a public hearing is needed?

Ray - info session more likely, formal hearing not required by state or grant.

May depend on: How soon contract needs to be signed after contract finalized.

Ray will try to make project NOT driven by timing.

Energy Comm will recommend signing contract to select board --either can have an info session.

EC members agreed an info session would be in order.

Claire - questioned the lighting rebate amounts are different.

Ray - only one building recommended for lights.; \$ for elementary school lighting rebate lower?

Towns can do lighting work till Dec. 15, extended and still receive max. rebate money.

Ray -- from Beth Greenblatt- lighting work best done on 2nd shift, after kids gone; without significant cost impact. She thinks we can sign single contract and get lighting done on time.

There is no danger of reaching the limit of funding for Beth's assistance. DOER recognizing value she brings to project.

Tupper asked are the Menu of projects selected the result of discussions with town reps? or unilaterally chosen by Siemens to make project work better? Ray - Latter (Siemens)

Tupper: some smaller cost projects have been removed fro Aug 9 spreadsheet

Ray: Application incl. Riverside Bldg and Elementary School for Aug 1 deadline

Ray and Beth - now verifying utility energy data

3 deadlines:

1) WMECO - to get highest value rebate, need lighting work installed by Dec 15, 2010

2 - DOER prefers 150k EECBG grant --work fully complete by June 30, 2011

3 – EECBG Grant contract --final date is June 30, 2012

Ray also reported -

1) Total Project cost is \$412,490, under the \$430,000 approved by the town.

2) Donna McNichol is the Gill town counsel as well as for the town of Orange. This may help Gill as Orange is ahead of us in the process.

Timmy asked for a funding update. Ronnie stated that she had been looking into the options as this area of responsibility falls to the Treasurer. She stated that the preparation of all the necessary documents to submit would take about 1.5 weeks to complete. It would take 4-6 weeks to borrow the money.

Tupper asked if we could get preliminary approval, Ronnie said we could not as she needs to have the exact dollar amount to borrow to put into her loan request forms.

Ronnie, Ray, the finance committee, and at least one select board member will meet with a financial advisor. This will be at no cost to the town.

3) Scope of Work: Not in yet and no date has been given for when to expect it.

Tupper asked for an explanation line by line of the August 9 draft Performance Contacts totals.

Green Communities Action Plan was approved by the Selectboard. NMH may add solar to their sewer treatment plant. This possibility will be reviewed by Claire with FROCOG, Dan, Alyssa, and Pat.

Claire: The Energy Committee needs to develop a 20% reduction plan. The Franklin County area energy commissions met recently to share ideas. Claire and Pam attended. PACE was discussed but there is some opposition through lending institutions.

The next meeting was set for September 15th at 6pm.

Approval of Meeting Minutes as follows:

June 7, 2010- Pam moved to approve, Claire seconded, Pam abstained from the vote. All in favor

March 17, 2010- Tupper moved to approve, Claire seconded, Pam abstained from the vote. All in favor

April 20, 2010- Tupper moved to approve, Claire seconded, Pam abstained from the vote. All in favor

Feb 4, 2010 - Tupper moved to approve, Claire seconded, Pam abstained from the vote. All in favor

Jan 7, 2010 - Tupper moved to approve, Claire seconded, Tupper suggested an amendment of moving the MOU, Pam abstained from the vote, the minutes were approved as amended. All in favor

Tupper moved to adjourn. Pam seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

Minutes as submitted by Ivan Ussach and Pam Lester