



TOWN OF STRATHAM

INCORPORATED 1716

10 BUNKER HILL AVENUE • STRATHAM NH 03885

VOICE (603) 772-4741 • FAX (603) 775-0517

MINTUES FOR STRATHAM ENERGY COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday December 12, 2017

Meeting to be held at the Municipal Center @ 7:00 pm

Committee Members:

- **Michael Ream**
- **Matthew O'Keefe**
- **Michael Gorman**
- **Charlie Case**
- **Michael Welty**
- **Town Manager Paul Deschaine**

Visitor

- **Stephanie Marshall from Exeter**

7:05 PM Call to order

- 1.) Approved Meeting minutes from November 14, 2017 meeting.
- 2.) Solar Update @ Stratham PD
 - a. An early January date is planned, install start date will be confirmed by ReVision in December. Less than a week if figured, weather permitting.
 - b. Chief Scippa in favor of a dedication to Carolyn Robinson (see November minutes).
 - c. Action: Mike Welty to find out vendor info, agree parameters and costs with Leslie Kimball, Stratham library director. Text for the dedication for the plaque needs to be drafted and agreed.
- 3.) Ground Mt Solar Project – Review proposals
 - a. Revision 132kW
 - i. Positive cash flow predicted at Year 5
 - ii. Alluded that the installation might not be appropriate as a PPA, then supports it, seemed contradictory.
 - iii. Need to negotiate location, if corner lot of 108/Bunker hill, matter of tree removal is an open item. This location is favorable due to net metering financial arrangement and agreement of the police station, due to its adjacency.

The Stratham Energy Commission reserves the right to conduct the meeting in any order they deem appropriate.



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- iv. PPA Rate Schedule & Savings: differences in economic benefit due to law change, SEC to estimate the annual (seasonal) impact vs the published rates.
 - v. Policy options, as understood by SEC: Net meter per meter, metering per site, or by group. Can we credit other meters in the town, even in adding this ground array still only satisfying half the demands of the town.
 - vi. Option could be a smaller array to only meet the needs of TH. Action: Meet with Jack Rudermman at a future SEC meeting to establish the best fit for the town. Mike Welty to invite Jack Ruderman to the Jan meeting, as we will proceed to work with ReVision on this proposal. Also invite a representative from selectmen. Heritage commission also a stakeholder, they meet on 10Jan. SEC to ask to be added to their agenda.
 - vii. Paul's questions: Is there a car parking design that may be favorable (park under the arrays design)?
 - viii. What are we asking for? A long term lease, smaller system would lessen impact to trees / land. Selectman can add a warrant article until Late Feb. Paul figures it will be heard by selectmen by 12 Feb.
 - b. Barrington 120kW
 - i. More expensive over lifecycle compared to Revision bid.
 - ii. Charlie Case to contact Jack Bingham to inform him we will proceed with ReVision.
 - c. Highway dept – per Paul Deschaine, is there a benefit to putting a roof-mounted system to handle the demand of that facility (which is relatively small)?
- 4.) Review 2018 Budget request
- a. As submitted in draft by Mike Welty to the SEC. Payback assumed not to exceed 5yrs on our \$4,000 investment for the energy upgrade funds for town properties Gifford House and Ranger House. SEC would evaluate the audit recommendations, and manage the spend of these funds within the budget constraints. SEC to make this clear when presenting their plan.
 - b. SEC endorses this proposed budget.
- 5.) Rockingham Planning Commission Aggregation Program
- a. If we proceed, would this interfere with the PPA contracts? Likely, yes, so must be carefully considered. Town already aggregates electrical with the schools.

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- b. Unitil's Jun-Nov expected to be lower than current price, based on history. Have to consider a threshold value approaching \$0.08/kWh in annual contract to be attractive for the town, which is not conventionally believed to be available.
 - c. Discussed benefit / effort of pursuing. Decision: No further action at this time.
- 6.) Year End reports
- a. In progress, will be updated for the January meeting. Action Matt O'Keefe.
- 7.) Wind Farm Offshore (Discussion led by visitor Stephanie Marshall)
- a. Volunteer 350 New Hampshire. 350.org started ~10yrs ago by Middlebury college students. Current arc is long term, now focusing on off shore wind NH/mass. 2014 bi-partisan NH leg recommended a task source bureau of ocean energy mgmt. (BOEM). Applying lessons learned from cape wind. Governor has to recommend establishing a Task Force, hasn't occurred yet. Governor Sununu has indicated if community supports, he wouldn't object. Strategy has been a citizen's petition, though open to SECs feedback on best way to go. Stephanie put together a summary packet, with takeaways from participating towns. Question: would SEC like to take this forward to BOS as a warrant article or as a citizen's petition? Purpose is to garner town support, so to endorse the creation of a Task Force by the Governor
 - b. Q&A, and notes:
 - i. Where does funding come from? Bureau of Energy Management.
 - ii. Wind fam would be in federal waters, would link up to ME and MA,
 - iii. Timing issue: Feb 6, 2018 deadline for a signed petition by town members to be presented to Selectman's sponsorship of a warrant article (though rare).
 - iv. Left a copy of the citizen's petition, should Stratham decide to go forward.
 - v. Question: what impetus, given a Task Force is created, that ME and MA will want to work with NH?
 - vi. Next step: Mike to connect with Stephanie. Stephanie to nominate a representative to speak at town meeting.
 - vii. SEC will assist in finding the 25 signatures needed.

8.) New Business – n/a

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Adjourn 8:28PM

Next Meeting January 9 @ 7pm

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