

Minutes

Easton Energy Task Force

Regular Meeting, Wednesday November 15, 2017

Easton Town Hall Conference Room A, 7:30 p.m.

Present: Cathy Alfandre, Heidi Armster, Katie Callahan

Guests: Bill Cratty and John Dunster

Cathy convened the meeting at 7:32

Minutes:

Katie motioned to approve the minutes from October; Heidi seconded. All in favor.

Forward Capacity Market:

ISO New England (Independent System Operator) is a non-for-profit that manages the flow of power in all of New England, maintaining the balance of the grid.

FCM is a way to manage the power and C-Power is a "curtailment service" that helps ensure there is a enough supply to respond to the demand, even at peak times.

Bill Cratty explained to the TF how the Forward Capacity Market works. Essentially, the town's generation (solar installation) is promised to ISO as a source of energy supply/demand response; in return, the town (and C-Power) receive payment for that promise. The size of the payment is based on the capacity of the system.

He explained that there is no financial risk to the town, only that there may be short periods of time when there is no return based on output of the system.

He suggested we get Phase I into the market asap so that the town can begin earning money on the system starting in 2018.

Bill provided some handouts for the group to read and become familiar with the details.

Cathy will follow up with Adam Dunsby.

Solar Phase II updates/next steps:

John's update:

Next step (for John) is to search for a new PPA; Green Bank's price has gone up and he thinks he can get a better cost from another PPA provider. Looking to stay under 10 cents; Green Bank has gone over, almost to 11.

He's hoping to get into the school mid-winter during a break. Needs to get into the building to see the system for further negotiations.

The town will need to clear the field as preliminary work. Once weather is nice, they can build. Hoping to set the goal to be up-and-running by sometime next summer.

Discussed the PPA a bit more and John assured the group that he will return to update us with any details of who the PPA provider might be and what they will offer; this will include a discussion on maintenance and upkeep of the system going forward.

Green Spotlight:

The TF looked over the article by Grace on National Vegan Month. Discussed ways to turn the piece towards a stronger case for the connection between being vegan and environmental benefits.

Cathy will follow up with Grace.

Possible Lighting Project:

Cathy reported on a meeting with Gil Neves and Ed Nagy to discuss possible lighting projects.

Cathy has reached out again to UI to understand incentives to augment the \$5000 grant, that can be put towards lighting upgrades.

Another possible project: insulation for SSES. Honeywell had looked into envelope solutions but none have been implemented thus far.

Heidi motioned to adjourn; Katie second.

Cathy adjourned the meeting at 9:20.

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Armster, Secretary EETF