

Final Minutes

Lyme Energy Committee meeting, November 28, 2016

Present: Dan O'Hara, Matt Brown, Robin Taylor, Scott Nichols, Mark Bolinger, Mike Novello

Mark called the meeting to order at 7:35.

1. The draft minutes for the October 17, 2016 meeting were approved as circulated.
Action: Mark to send in to town.
2. We discussed the Lightec lighting retrofit proposals for the town office building and highway garage. Mike pointed out that some of the individual measures seem more cost-effective than others, and wondered whether we can pick and choose which measures to implement (answer: we can). A number of additional questions arose: Why some individual measures are more cost-effective than other identical measures? What assumptions go into their savings estimates? Would they be swapping out fixtures or just bulbs/tubes? Is their proposal for an outright purchase or do they offer financing? Without having Sue (who unfortunately hit a deer en route to the meeting) present to add context and answer questions, there was not much more we could do on the lighting proposals, so we tabled the discussion. [Note: Sue and Mark have since had a conference call with the Lightec rep, who was able to answer some of these questions, as well as others. Answers will be shared at the next meeting.]
3. We spent the rest of the meeting discussing the ReVision Energy PPA proposal, their willingness to work with us on a contingent basis (regarding town approval in March), how their PPA proposal compares to outright ownership based on a fresh quote from a different installer, and how we want to proceed, given that it's coming down to the wire. After much discussion, we decided to pursue a town-owned project rather than the PPA, for several reasons: roughly comparable economics, won't have to go back to the town in six years to ask for PPA buyout funding, and town ownership will be easier to explain to town residents (and perhaps more likely to pass) than a PPA. Given this decision, Mark will ask Sue whether we need to go out for formal bid, or whether he can just solicit multiple bids informally via e-mail (answer: formal bid was required, and the RFP was approved by the Select Board and released on December 8, with proposals due by December 21).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM. Next meeting is scheduled for December 19, 2016 at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Mark Bolinger