

Nelson Town Buildings Committee

February 16, 2015

Attendees

- Dave Upton
- Susan Hansel
- Lisa Sieverts
- Russ Thomas
- Maury Collins
- Bert Wingerson
- Dave Birchenough
- Guests
 - Greg Blake from South Pack Solar
 - Rob Germeroth

Action Items

- Dave Upton
 - Confirm municipal ownership of land being considered for solar near Safety Building
- Lisa Sieverts
 - Start researching grants
- Dave Birchenough
 - Work with Antioch to find an expert in Group Net Metering and other social aspects to implementing solar, for possible attendance at next TBC Meeting March 30, 2015
- Greg Blake
 - Quote for Library Roof
 - Quote for ground array, with additional costs noted for hillside vs. safety building lot

Next Meeting

- Tentatively Monday March 30, 2015 6 PM Town Offices pending reappointment of TBC members after Town Meeting

MINUTES

- Meeting called to order at 6:04 PM
- Motion by Russ second by Maury to accept the minutes of 1/26. All in favor.
- Dave Birchenough has joined the Buildings Committee, pending Committee reconfirmation after Town Meeting.

Report on Solar for the Library Roof

- Greg ran the numbers on the Library roof and solar appropriateness
- 4.3 sun hours per day, which is excellent for NH
- Panels would be placed around the connector roof
 - to fit 34 modules on the Library roof
 - 235 watt modules with micro-inverters
 - produce 10612 kWhours annually
 - Town Hall and Library uses 13000 kWhours, so solar could offset 80% of the energy used.
 - Cost
 - 7.99 KW system
 - \$30,000 to build
 - get \$6392 rebate
 - PUC rebate
 - net \$23571 to build it
 - Net positive cash flow in year 11, so next 15 years would be prepaid electricity
 - equivalent of a 9% internal rate of return
 - ROI 174%
 - Value of the electricity
 - \$64500 over the life of the system
 - note that the microinverters have warranty for 25 years so we don't plan to have to replace them.

Town Meeting 2016

- Would we want to do just the Library, or Library and Ball Field, or just Ball Field?
- Susan says we should make a decision so that we can apply for grants.
 - Susan thinks we should start with something small like the Library and prove that it is cost-effective.
 - Greg says the Library is nice because the costs and benefits are well understood. It's almost like a residence.
 - Greg says that the hill above the ball field has many more unknowns.
- Russ reminds us that the electrical infrastructure in the Village is terrible.
 - have to have an interconnect agreement with PSNH/EverSource, they review the plan.
 - Greg thinks we can make a case that the infrastructure is so inadequate that PSNH needs to take on the investment. And we're not talking about an enormous system on the Library.
 - No reason to wait to do this interconnect agreement, there's no commitment
- PUC application
 - part 1

- ask them to approve the project and set aside the money
 - but only have 6 months to wait for this type of commercial project
- part 2
 - ask for the money

Electricity

- If we did the Library and the hill above the Safety building
 - total electrical use in town
 - 34589 kWh for Municipal
 - does not include the school
 - would need a 28kW system to offset

Next Steps

- Greg will do formal quote for the Library for Town Meeting of 2016
 - We note that of course the Town will seek 3 bids prior to Town Meeting.
- Nelson do interconnect agreement with EverSource
- Greg will also do the bid for the hill above the Safety Building
 - 24kW system
 - Greg will also do the bid for the area (parking) behind the Safety Building (same array)
 - Assume the town will do the excavation
 - In town, start investigating Group Net Metering
- Search for grants
 - dsire.org
 - database for each state on alternative energies
 - Lisa will look at this
- Is there a wealthy benefactor who wants the tax credits?
 - it's like an energy endowment for the town
 - it's fixed 5 years of depreciation
 - 30% Federal income tax credit
- Dave Birchenough will reach out to Antioch to get someone who could talk to us about Group Net Metering.
- Town has to research who owns the land around the ball field and Safety building
 - Dave will research this

Discuss next Buildings Committee

- The Town Buildings Committee is re-appointed each year after Town Meeting.
- Lisa suggests to the Selectboard that when the TBC reconvenes after Town Meeting, that we only have one Selectboard member. So that the Town Buildings Committee is a true committee that makes recommendations to the Selectboard.

- There is general support for this idea.

Fire Station

- Lisa brings up that the Munsonville Fire Station issue is a Buildings issue, and yet it has not been discussed at this Committee.
- Susan informs us that the Fire Station came to the Selectboard only a few weeks ago.

Next Meeting

- Tentatively March 30th at 6 PM Town Offices
- The new Selectboard should the appoint Buildings Committee members right after Town Meeting.

Maury moves to adjourn, Bert seconds at 7:43 PM, all in favor.