

**Alternative Energy Committee
August 20, 2014**

Members present: Larry Bean, Chair; Burke Henry, Vice Chair; and Glenn Carlson and Carl Frederickson
Members absent: Tom Banner
Town Staff Present: Pete Clark, Town Administrator (10:16am)
Connie Ross, Library Director
Public present: Jim Peters

1. Call to order.

The Alternative Energy Committee (AEC) meeting called to order by Chair L. Bean on Wednesday, August 20, 2014 at 10:09am.

2. Minutes of the following meetings to be considered for approval:

A. August 6, 2014.

One correction on pg 3, 4th paragraph down. The size of the system is measured in kilowatts; the use of energy is measured in kilowatt hours. Strike the "h" after 180Kwh to read 180 Kw and strike the "h" after 100Kwh to read 100Kw.

Motion by B. Henry to approve the August 6, 2014 Alternative Energy Committee minutes as corrected, second, C. Frederickson. No discussion. All in favor, all aye, motion carried.

3. Report on Participation and Financial Assistance for the Solar Planning/Design.

The AEC sent a letter to the Madeline Island Ferry Line, Inc (MIFL) in regards to participation and financial assistance. The MIFL replied to say they are overwhelmed this time of the season and asked if the committee has approached any other entity. Agreement to contact the MIFL at a slower time and invite them or stop to see them in regards to the potential energy savings they could realize.

Connie Ross, Library Director reported that the Library Board gave the AEC \$5,000 for the Solar Planning/Design study. A big thank-you to the Library. The AEC sees the Library as formal partners in this project and from now on they will be considered 1/3 partners. G. Carlson will update the Library Board at their meeting on September 11, 2014 as to what the AEC is doing. The selected contractor will also want to meet with the Library Board and this committee sometime in the near future.

Pete Clark, Town Administrator now present. (10:16am)

4. Review of Responses to the Request For Proposals (RFP) for Planning/design of Solar Micro-grid for the Town and Possible Recommendation to the Town Board for contract.

L. Bean said there are two proposals for \$15,000 each from Chippewa Valley Alternative Energy and North Wind. Both proposals compare apples to apples. We should be pleased to have two proposals that are this good. The strengths of each company are different but both are strong proposals.

L. Bean said Chippewa Valley will not use Chequamegon Bay Engineering and Chippewa Valley will meet the objectives of the Request For Proposals for \$15,000.

G. Carlson said his concern is that Chippewa Valley already has a solution in mind and their proposal feels like a template. L. Bean said he mentioned at the last meeting he was a little uncomfortable with the fact that Chippewa Valley is the vendor of a particular product and clearly show a bias for that product. However, Chippewa Valley has agreed to provide this committee with three choices for the interactors, collectors and inverters.

G. Carlson said the other thing that is different is that North Wind will actually do the installation; Chippewa Valley talks about giving this committee qualified potential bidders to buy the equipment from and who would do the installation, although Chippewa Valley does reserve the right to bid on the installation. L. Bean said as this project moves forward he sees the planning and design study as a stand-alone piece. The Town would then go on and solicit bids from multiple people for the installation. As an example, North Wind could do the planning and design study and someone else could come in and install the equipment, perhaps equipment North Wind specified.

North Wind has a good proposal. When North Wind asked why the committee was leaning toward the other contractor, L. Bean told them the other contractor had worked to establish a relationship with this committee; they visited the site with their subcontractors and submitted a fair amount of information about their company. Chippewa Valley also responded to the letter of interest the committee sent out a year ago. One fault perhaps, is that Chippewa Valley did some of the work that is to be under contract, such as contacting the DNR, Xcel, talking about property lines, etc. The committee agrees this is not a fault. L. Bean said Chippewa Valley's strength is that they want the job, they want to make this project work and they have been very responsive.

B. Henry said both contractors are competent. Chippewa Valley appears to have worked harder on the proposal in order to win a role with us. Since both contractors are competent and qualified and say, on paper that they will do the job at the same price, his recommendation to the Town Board is that the study be awarded to Chippewa Valley. B. Henry said this is his motion.

Discussion of Chippewa Valley being the vendor of TenK Solar. Chippewa Valley has agreed they will offer, beside their system, two other choices. Question if the two other choices would be throw-aways. L. Bean said he is confident that this committee knows enough people who would check on the systems and ask, 'is this really the best?'

Discussion that North Wind submitted a list of references with their proposal but do not think Chippewa Valley submitted references. Agreement to add this as an amendment to the motion. L. Bean will check and ask Chippewa Valley for references or a list of clients.

Motion and amendment on the floor as follows:

Motion by B. Henry to recommend to the Town Board that we award the study to Chippewa Valley based on successful reference checking and project list. Second, C. Frederickson. All in favor, 4 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

L. Bean will draft a Scope of Work for the contract to take to the Town Board at the August 26, 2014 Town Board meeting. The Town does have a hold harmless requirement of an umbrella policy and statement of regulatory compliance. Suggestion that a payment schedule and

potential add-ons be included in the contract. B. Henry suggested using the contracts for the Windsled or Wind Tower as models.

Further discussion of references. Agreement that North Wind did set the standard for what we get from Chippewa Valley. North Wind submitted references and a very professionally prepared proposal. The strengths of the two companies are different.

5. Budget.

B. Henry submits a spreadsheet showing, at each Town Facility, the KWHrs/Year and the % of the total used by each facility. The spreadsheet also shows the total cost per year at 0.10, 0.12, 0.14 and 0.16 \$/KWHr. Spreadsheet is hereby attached and made a part of these minutes. This is valuable information. Thank you to B. Henry.

Pete Clark said committee budget discussions will be coming up.

L. Bean said we had several recommendations for the Town last year and will include those recommendations for this budget cycle along with more realistic funding. L. Bean would like to invite the contractor who said we should be able to replace the parking lot lights for \$1,000 - \$2,000/pole. The lights on the ferry dock would need everything, including the six poles replaced. If you budget \$2,000/pole the cost would be approximately \$12,000 for the ferry dock lights. Pete Clark said dock lighting was also addressed in the harbor grant.

6. Discussion and/or Formation of Advisory Team for Solar Micro-grid project.

Northland College might be a place to look. Pete Clark suggested Bob Bruce, who was at Northland at one time and also was the Planning Director in Duluth. The Candle Shop is hosting a reception for the Sigurd Olson group from Northland on August 28th. Mike Miller, president of Northland will be there as well as other potential contacts. Suggestion to contact Bruce Biehoff, Professor at UW Madison and Don Wichert, past Director of Focus on Energy.

7. Regional Energy Activities.

Nothing to report.

8. Set next meeting and agenda.

B. Henry said the Town Board will consider and decide on the AEC recommended contractor at their August 26, 2014 Town Board meeting. The contractor will then be notified of the award. The AEC will meet with the contractor in regards to a contract/Scope of Work.

L. Bean will write a Draft Contract/Scope of Work which will be sent to the contractor, the Town Board and the Library Board for their review.

Tentative meeting is set for Wednesday, Sept 3, 2014 at 10:00am

9. Adjourn.

Motion by B. Henry to adjourn, second, G. Carlson. All in favor, all aye, motion carried.

Minutes taken from recorder by Kathy Erickson, Clerical Assistant

Minutes approved as amended, amendments in italics on September 5, 2014.

Town Facility	KWHS/Yr	% of Total
187 Col Woods Blvd Dock	39,704.0	19.3%
320 Big Bay Rd Fire Hall	34,434.0	16.7%
340 Big Bay Rd MRF	32,159.5	15.6%
240 Big Bay Rd Town Hall	23,808.5	11.6%
295 Middle Rd Rec Center	23,741.0	11.5%
245 Library St Library	16,426.5	8.0%
79 Big Bay Rd Airport	14,230.0	6.9%
795 Big Bay Rd Town Garage	12,284.0	6.0%
795 Big Bay Rd SSE	8,940.0	4.3%

Town Facility	KWHS/Yr	% of Total
241 Big Bay Rd Health Center	6,243.0	3.0%
2305 Big Bay Rd Town Park	4,384.0	2.1%
858 Whitefish Rd Museum & Dock Rest Room	3,779.5	1.8%
1087 Sunny Slope Rd Ice Rd Approach	3,366.0	1.6%
320 Big Bay Rd Winter Transport Building	2,261.5	1.1%
677 Main St Joani's Beach	498.5	0.2%
342 Big Bay Rd Exchange	363.5	0.2%
703 Miller Rd Antenna Facility	322.0	0.2%
797 Big Bay Rd	69.5	0.03%
Total	205,728.0	100.0%

Total Cost per Yr @	0.10	0.12	0.14	0.16
\$/KWHr	\$ 20,572.75	\$ 24,687.30	\$ 28,801.85	\$ 32,916.40