

Energy Committee Meeting

Fair Haven Municipal Office

Thursday January 22, 2015 (7:00 pm)

AGENDA

1. Call to order at 7:00 pm
2. Discussion of the Depot Street dam site visit with Jeff Crocker, Vermont State River Ecologist with committee members and Brad Stevens, owner of said property.
3. Discussion of the Agency of Natural Resources' review process, and potential FERC permitting process and discuss any question from the committee members, Town Manager, Brad Stevens, or Fair Haven Residents in attendance.
4. Inquire with Brad Stevens what options would be on the table for acquisition of ownership, development rights, or partnership in a low impact hydroelectric generation facility. It has been made clear to the committee, by our project engineer, Jay Boery, that any future visits or review requirements at the Depot Street Dam. It is apparent that required future State sight visits from the Ecologist, Fisheries Biologist and Historian will not occur without rights to the property and dam.
5. Discussion of any foreseen "issues," good or bad, with the New England Clean Power Link, or other proposed solar projects briefed on at December Select board meeting.
6. Other business?
7. Adjourn

NOTES:

Explanation of situation: Herb: owner might assume that town should make an offer that includes legality of fazing in purchase

Mike: Need to know what we legally need for ownership / rights (with Jay) for FERC /State.

Herb/Mike: Defer research about our doing a quit claim. Agreement on signing quit claim before or after

Pete/Mike: negotiation process needed. Need to use information from purchase/acquisition figures from engineer's evaluation.

Mike: Negotiate with Marcrow.

Herb: Could you research what type of a legal (Right of first refusal) fazing in process would we need to take a bond vote and turn it into Ferc permitting process/engineering expences, et cetera?

Top priority.

Inquire:

Brad:

New England clean power link: Her attending hearing in Montpelier next week, will put in motion to intervene and claim party status. Questions about grand list increase and property taxes. Will VTRANS receive tax revenue. Herb believes it is very important to maintain activity in the process since our questions are very high level legal research.

Questions about tax exemption from solar projects. Changes coming that may or may not affect the two solar projects that are going through the process now.

Neil: commented on lack of protests, descent and controversy over this project throughout the state.

Qs for Gene Birch? Can power be sold anywhere within GMP territory?