

**Electric Utilities Task Group
Monday, October 21, 2013
Town Hall, Old Town Road
12:30 p.m.**

Present: Barbara MacMullan, Bill Penn, Everett Shorey and John Warfel. Also present were First Warden Kim Gaffett, Town Council Member Chris Warfel, Cliff McGinnes of BIPCO, Bryan Wilson of Deepwater Wind, community members Rosemarie Ives, Peter Baute, Bill McKernan and to record the minutes, Millie McGinnes.

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m.

Public Input

Rosemarie Ives asked that the EUTG request an opinion from the Attorney General, about whether Deepwater Wind would be required, according to the JDA, to provide a cable to Block Island if the Block Island demonstration project does not go forward.

Andrew D’uva asked if telecommunications were included in the proposed Deepwater Wind cable.

Approve minutes of September 16, 2013 meeting

The minutes of the September 16, 2013 meeting were approved in a motion by Bill Penn and seconded by John Warfel.

Ayes 4 (MacMullan, Penn, Warfel, Shorey) Nays 0 Absent 0

Deepwater Update

Bryan Wilson of Deepwater Wind reported that Deepwater CEO Jeff Grybowski plans to attend the next EUTG meeting.

Analysis of Streetlight Ownership

John Warfel presented his findings regarding the energy savings associated with the conversion to LED streetlights, noting a \$92,000 savings over ten years.

Everett Shorey moved to recommend to the Town Council that the Town go into negotiations with the Block Island Power Company to establish a program to convert the current streetlighting to LED lighting and submit a joint application to the PUC to establish a new tariff for such. Bill Penn seconded the motion.

Following discussion, Mr. Shorey moved to amend the motion on the floor to add the line “which could include the Town taking over ownership of the lights from BIPCO.” John Warfel seconded the motion and it carried.

Ayes 4 (MacMullan, Penn, Warfel, Shorey) Nays 0 Absent 0

The motion on the floor: “to recommend to the Town Council that the Town go into negotiations with the Block Island Power Company to establish a program to convert the current streetlighting

to LED lighting, which could include the Town taking over ownership of the lights from BIPCO, and submit a joint application to the PUC to establish a new tariff for such.” was approved.

Ayes 4 (MacMullan, Penn, Warfel, Shorey) Nays 0 Absent 0

The agenda was amended to address “Analysis of BIPCO purchase power costs with cable,” before “Economics of BIPCO switch to LNG.”

Analysis of BIPCO purchase power costs with cable

Barbara MacMullan reviewed her draft memo regarding BIPCO’s purchase power costs with the cable, noting that Vermont Public Power Supply Authority calculated purchased power costs based on ISONE actual data of \$0.0674 per kW hour. Some changes to the language will be made and the memo will be forwarded to the Town Council along with the report from Richard LaCapra dated September 18, 2013.

Economics BIPCO switch to LNG

Cliff McGinnes of BIPCO reported that the proposal BIPCO was considering for implementation of a 50/50 mix of LNG/diesel is off the table and is no longer being considered, due to technical issues. Ms. MacMullan stated that it is premature to do analysis of a switch to LNG, as there are too many unknowns and not enough data. The EUTG will include a statement of such in their memo to the Town Council.

Analysis of BIPCO emissions

Following discussion, the group decided to let the Town Council know that an in-depth analysis of emissions is beyond their expertise and the Council should hire a consultant for such.

Discussion of PUC/Cable connection letter

It was noted that Town Manager Nancy Dodge sent a letter to the PUC asking whether they were going to open a docket for a standalone cable from the mainland to Block Island. A detailed discussion ensued regarding whether it was prudent to seek an opinion from the Attorney General, about whether Deepwater would be required, according to the JDA, to provide a cable to Block Island if the Block Island demonstration project does not go forward.

Cell Tower request from Town Council

It was noted that the Town Council was looking for information regarding the ownership structure and income allocation of BIPCO’s cell tower. Ms. MacMullan stated that they did not have any previous information on the item, but would look into it and put it on the next agenda.

Next meeting: November 18, 2013 at 12:30 a.m.

At 2:14 p.m. a motion was made by Bill Penn and seconded by John Warfel to adjourn and voted unanimously.

Minutes approved:

Millie McGinnes