

General Services Committee

May 10, 2016

Minutes

Members Present: Committee Chair Philip Reed, Legislators James Nabywaniec, Jeremiah Maxon, Robert Ferris, Jennie Adsit, Anthony Doldo

Others Present: County Administrator Robert Hagemann, County Attorney David Paulsen, Legislator William Johnson, Allen Drake, Daniel McBride, Highway Superintendent James Lawrence, Interim Planning Director Michael Bourcy, Buildings Superintendent Spike Decker, Secretary Torri Richmire

Chairman Reed called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and offered privilege of the floor. The minutes of the April meeting were approved without objection or correction.

John Warneck, Jeff-Lewis BOCES, made a presentation to Committee members regarding the development of the BOCES Tri-County Solar Energy Consortium. He explained that the consortium is a group of schools and municipalities who have joined together to obtain low cost solar energy. The group is looking at putting in large scale solar arrays on public and private property throughout Northern New York to generate power. The consortium will pay a developer to generate electricity for them, they will then buy the electricity from the developer to sell to National Grid for a profit and any credits will be applied toward the members energy bills.

Mr. Warneck stated that there is an opportunity to lock into a Remote Net Metering (RNM) Credits program set up by the Public Service Commission where the power gets sold to National Grid at a specific fluctuating rate. The developer has until the end of December 2017 to have the arrays under construction in order take part in the program. He stated that currently there are 56 members in the Tri County area (Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties), 1 in Franklin County and 4 have expressed interest in Oneida County.

He explained there is a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) contract between the developer and the consortium whereby the developer promises to generate electricity and the consortium agrees to buy power generated from them for the next 20 years. He stated that there is a need for 70MW of electrical generation which would require approximately 28 arrays that would cover 10-12 acres and generate over 3M kwh of electricity per year.

Mr. Warneck advised that the arrays generate electricity to sell to National Grid. All meters will be in the consortiums name (you will no longer receive a bill from National Grid) the bill will be sent directly to the consortium from National Grid. The consortium will pay National Grid, deduct the credits and bill members for their portion. The credits will be shared with the members based on their consumption.

He stated that there is no upfront costs, the developer fronts the money and maintains and operates the arrays. The land would be leased by the developer for the 20 year period, the agreement being between the developer and the land owner.

He advised that the risk is the difference between the metering credit and the PPA rate. If the RNM drops below the PPA rate, the consortium will lose money.

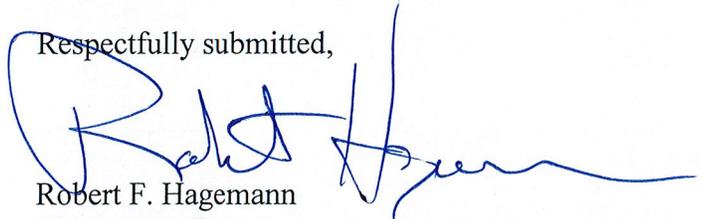
Mr. Warneck stated that the developer, Solar City, has requested that the consortium sign on additional members which requires him to obtain signed contracts for the power purchase agreement for a 20 year term. He stated that they have 11 entities who have returned their purchasing agreements and will extend the deadline for Jefferson County to make their decision until early June.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Accepting Donation on Behalf of the Department of Fire and Emergency Management and Amending the 2016 County Budget and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Maxon and seconded by Legislator Ferris. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

Chairman Reed introduced a resolution Adopting Revised Guidelines and Administrative Procedures in Relation to the County's Housing Improvement Program funded by NYS Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Awards and entertained a motion for consideration. A motion was duly made by Legislator Adsit and seconded by Legislator Ferris. There being no discussion, the Committee agreed to sponsor the resolution as presented.

There being no further business, on a motion by Legislator Ferris seconded by Legislator Nabywaniec and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert F. Hagemann
Clerk of the Board