

Energy Commission Meeting Summary 9/28/10

In Attendance:

Susan St. Pierre, Sam Cleaves, Tom Balf, Linda Brayton, Jill Buchanan, and John Moskal.

Discussion Items:

- *Wind Feasibility Study at Blackburn Industrial Park:* Susan reported that the draft study is due from Boreal around 10/15. Access may be an issue as the City may need to look at an easement from Varian or investigate access from Quarry Road. There is a Design and Construction grant round in January that could be considered for one of the Blackburn sites if the city wanted to.
- *Other Wind Feasibility Studies:* Susan reported that the City submitted a grant application to MA Clean Energy Center for a Wind Feasibility Study grant on September 14, using the site assessment information developed for Magnolia Woods.
- *Other Site Assessments:* Are there any other wind sites we would like MA CEC to assess? Smaller wind sites at O'Maley MS or the High School?
- *Green Communities:* Susan reported that the completed application for Green Community certification was submitted on September 3. The submission deadline for the next Green Community grants round is January 31, and the money, if awarded, can be used as a match for MA CEC Design and Construction grants.
- *Roof Turbine at O'Maley School :* Amy Donnelly continues to pursue a roof top turbine for the O'Maley School; Susan reported that the City Council's Planning and Development Subcommittee will hear the matter starting October 6.
- *Potential Green Community Grant projects:* There was general consensus that larger school capital projects would be the best target for this grant round. Susan reported that High School lighting updates are now being performed by National Grid. Other possible school project includes boiler upgrades at Beeman, Veterans or O'Maley. The O'Maley boiler may need a larger gas line installed if it is converted to natural gas from oil. Susan will check with Dave Anderson and email school priorities to the CEC. The CEC discussed the possibility of developing RFPs for both boiler and solar work (for roof mounted solar at the High School).
- *Street Lights:* Tom reported that the city currently pays 33 cents per kWh for street lights, compared to average retail cost of electricity of 17 cents per kWh. With National Grid willing to let the city own the light fixtures on the poles for free, there are clearly ways to save money available.
- *CEC Policy and Mayoral/Council Report:* The CEC agreed that we should develop a report on wind feasibility status, Green Communities and street lights, meet with the Mayor and DPW Director to discuss and then present to City Council. This should be done following Boreal Energy's presentation of the Blackburn Wind Feasibility Study. Susan will work with Sam to develop the report.

- Jill reported that the CEC has \$1,860 in its Cape Ann Climate Change Network account available only for outreach and education.

Action Items:

- Blackburn Wind Feasibility presentation by Boreal Energy.
- Susan will check on school priority projects with Dave Anderson.
- Develop boiler and solar RFPs to use in conjunction with Green Communities Grant process.
- Pursue smaller turbine assessments at O'Maley and High School.
- Sam to draft CEC report to Mayor with Susan following better understanding of Blackburn wind study.

Summary submitted by Sam Cleaves