

**TOWN OF WAITSFIELD, VERMONT**  
**Selectboard Meeting Minutes of**  
**Thursday, March 27, 2014**

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Paul Hartshorn at the Waitsfield Town Office.

Members Present: Paul Hartshorn (Chair), Logan Cooke (Vice Chair), Scott Kingsbury, Chris Pierson, Sal Spinosa.

Staff Present: Valerie Capels, Town Administrator; Carol Chamberlin, Recording Secretary

Others Present: Chris Badger (Energy Coordinator), Nils Behn (Aegis Renewable Energy), Peter Edlund (Aegis), Darryl Forrest, Sam Gulisano, Ann Marie Harmon, Nicholas Harmon, Beverly Kehoe, Jerry Miller, Bill Parker, Peter Reynells, Michael Sharkey, Michael Ware, Sheila Ware, Ted Tremper.

**II. Regular Business**

**1. Public Forum.**

Many of those present at the meeting were in attendance to request that the Board use the opportunity of presenting a bond vote for the solar project to also present a vote for installation of underground conduit on Bridge Street. Several points were discussed, including the feasibility of installing the conduit without running wires at the same time, the need for the concrete bunkers to be installed at the same time as the conduit, the opportunity to provide for an Australian ballot vote on the issue, the legal ramifications of putting forth a vote on an issue that was voted on twice at Town Meeting earlier in March, other utility line configurations which may remain aboveground yet allow for the removal of poles from Bridge Street, and the ability to develop accurate cost projections in a timeframe that would allow for a second bond vote to be set for early May.

MOTION: Mr. Pierson made a motion to proceed with discussion of the purpose of this meeting, and to discuss thoroughly the issues raised during public forum at a later date. The motion was seconded by Mr. Cooke. All voted in favor.

**2. Continued consideration of an application to the CEDF Community Solar and Wind program: Nils Behn.**

Several aspects of the proposed project were discussed, including proper sizing of the array to avoid producing more energy than needed, ensuring that electricity generated may be applied to the Town's street lights under the current lease agreement, implications for school finances, and some specific technical aspects.

Mr. Behn has contacted Michelle Baker regarding how the project will affect school finances, including effects on state education property tax payments. A meeting is being scheduled with Ms. Baker and both Selectboard and School Board representatives in Warren; members of both Waitsfield Boards will be notified so they may also attend.

Mr. Behn explained that Aegis could provide a bond if the Board so required, but that it would add 3% to the total cost of the project. Based on current electric usage by the Town, he believes that 120kw is the proper size; an amendment to the Certificate of Public Good would be a simple process to complete if the size needs to be increased in the future.

Board members discussed their site preference, with both the Town Garage and the Munn site having been proposed as possible locations for the project; it was agreed that the Town Garage site should be selected for various reasons, mostly related to visibility.

MOTION: Mr. Pierson made a motion to locate the proposed project at the Town Garage. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kingsbury. All voted in favor.

### **3. Necessity Resolution for Bond and Special Town Meeting Warning and Ballot.**

Documentation for the bond vote and warning was edited to specify that the size of the array will be up to 120kw, the bond will not exceed \$355,000, and the location of the project is at the Town Garage.

MOTION: Mr. Cooke made a motion to approve the Warning and Necessity Resolution with the above edits. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kingsbury. There was discussion regarding the whether to include a separate bond article for the Bridge Street utility project at the same time. All voted in favor of the motion, which did not include an additional article.

### **4. Declaration of Intent to reimburse expenditures through indebtedness.**

MOTION: Mr. Cooke made a motion to approve the Declaration of Intent with corresponding amendments as noted for the warning. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kingsbury. All voted in favor.

The informational meeting for the bond vote will be held on Monday, May 5 at the Waitsfield Elementary School.

The School Board will be contacted regarding a meeting to discuss the project and its impacts on school finances.

### **III. Other Business**

No other business was addressed at this time.

### **IV. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Chamberlin  
Recording Secretary

reviewed by Valerie Capels  
Town Administrator