

[Approved]

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

Wednesday, February 23, 2017

4:30 PM

Tracy Hall, Norwich, VT

Board members present:

Ben Bradley (Thetford)
Neil Fulton (Norwich)
Stephen Willbanks (Strafford)
Phil Swanson (Woodstock)
Bob Stacey (Hartland)
Vern Clifford (Pomfret)
Mary Gavin (Sharon)
Lynne Bertram (Bridgewater)
Brion McMullan (Norwich)

Staff present: Tom Kennedy (GUV District Manager)

Guests: Rod Viens and Lincoln Lande (Gro-Solar); Seth Ames and Steward Close (Twin State Sand and Gravel); Kirk Shields (Green Mountain Power)

1. Discussion of an Option with Green Mountain Power for the Development of a 4.99 MW Solar Facility

Neil Fulton introduced the topic. He stated that GUV in 2015 created an RFP to select a developer for a solar facility on GUV property in North Hartland. Gro-Solar, a solar facilities development firm located in White River Junction was selected. Gro-Solar developed a lease option with the district that outlined the amount of land to used, length of project, and lease payments. Gro-Solar began working with Green Mountain Power and it quickly became apparent that the interconnects for the transmission lines and substation would make the project very expensive. The project was suspended.

Tom Kennedy has periodically contacted Gro-Solar regarding any changes that might make the project viable. Gro-Solar recently indicated that Green Mountain Power might be renewed interest in the project. Green Mountain Power has confirmed this interest

Lincoln Lande (Go-Solar) described the proposed project as being located off Quarry Road and requiring between 30-40 acres of land to generate 4.99MW of power. The lease would be for 25 years with two five-year options. There would be an initial non-refundable payment of \$5,000.00 upon signing of the option. The lease payments would be:

\$61,000 for years 1-25
\$65,000 for years 26-30
\$70,000 for years 31-35

Neil Fulton discussed the financial implications of the lease payment. He stated that, with the additional revenue, the bond payments made by District towns would decrease substantially since the lease payments would be allocated toward paying off the bond.

Phil Swanson made a motion to authorize the Chairman to sign an option agreement with Green Mountain Power for the development of a 4.99MW solar facility on 30 to 40 acres of land. The term of the agreement would be for 25 years with two 5 year options. The motion was seconded by Steve Willbanks.

The Chairman asked for a roll call. The roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

2. **Motion to Enter into Loan Agreement with Mascoma Savings Bank for the Purchase of the Truck.**

Tom Kennedy reported that he contacted three banks and Mascoma Bank provided the best rate; a loan of \$25,000.00 at 2.4% for 5 years with no fees.

Phil Swanson made a motion to authorize the Administrative Committee to sign the Promissory Note and the General Obligation Governmental Certificate for the purchase of the truck. The motion was seconded by Mary Gavin.

The Chairman asked for a roll call. The roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 5:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Kennedy