**FRANCONIA ENERGY COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**September 19, 2017; 4:30 pm**

In attendance: Bob T, Fitz, Karen F, Eric M, Chip S

Visitor: Justin Roshak, The Courier

Streetlight Conversion Project

Add the GIS audit to the project or not? JB at Affinity reported that Eversource will not accept Affinity as a “vendor” without GIS data. After discussing other means of obtaining the GIS data, Chip made the motion to add the GIS Audit to the Affinity contract at their proposed cost of an additional $2,064 (to a total project cost of $35,794); Bob seconded. So voted; no objections.

Karen will contact NHCFDA and request that the loan amount be increased to cover the added cost of the GIS Audit. The loan amount is still well within the amount approved at Town Meeting and still results in a positive cash flow of savings minus debt service.

Fitz will contact Randy Perkins at Eversource to advise him of the status of the project.

New Crosswalk

A crosswalk connecting Academy Street with the Congregational Church is being proposed by the Town, and the Board of Selectman would like the Energy Commission to investigate the possibility of installing LED lights on the two poles at each end of the crosswalk, which are required by the DOT. The Energy Commission can include the lights when the GIS audit is performed. The installation of the poles is not within our scope of responsibility. However, Fitz will check with the DOT about that. Bob pointed out that Fairpoint owns the poles.

Lafayette Elementary School

Bob presented a proposal by RGS Energy for the School which meets 100% of its needs and has a payback of less than 9 years. The cost is $437,015 to produce 182,000 kw. Since the School cannot use the tax credit or the depreciation benefits, a third party will own the system and the School will get a reduced rate for its electricity. More details and due diligence will follow pending a meeting with the School Board. Fitz will get the date of the next meeting and let us know.

Recreation Pavilion on the Dow-2018

Kim has reported that the Recreation Committee is receptive to having solar panels on the roof of the pavilion, which has the correct southern exposure. With a dimension of 15’ x 60’, the roof could accommodate approximately 50 panels and generate electricity that could be allocated to other Town accounts through a group net metering arrangement. Commission members are concerned about possible errant soccer balls and baseballs, but are also enthused about such a project.

Other:

Fitz reported on a couple of funding sources that cover a wide variety of projects; eg. Tillotson.

Profile High School-the installer of solar at the McLure warehouse has taken a look at PHS.

Portfolio Manager EPA – the Town must take over the data entry. Eric will bring up at a BOS meeting.

EV Charging Station would be great to have in Franconia. Chip will research.

Homeowner Energy Efficiency Program – Bob is going to a conference and wants to institute locally.

Future meetings will be on the 3rd Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is on October 17 at 4:30.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm. Respectfully submitted – Karen Foss