

REGULAR MEETING, MUNICIPAL BOARD
MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2011
7:00 P.M.

Present

Commissioners: Dolmatch, Hall, and Moffa, and DMO Lotkowitz.

Minutes

Comm. Dolmatch made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from 2/17/11. The motion was seconded by Comm. Hall and they were approved unanimously, (3-0).

Cryptosporidium-UV / Mechanical Design Proposal Bid Award

DMO Lotkowitz confirmed that since the last meeting, the notice of award was sent to Trojan. GHD is working on CDs, and they are planning on holding a design review at the end of next week. They are also looking to have design documents sent to the Department of Health by the 15th of April.

Comm. Moffa announced that a visit to Trojan industries is being arranged by DMO Lotkowitz. Anyone interested in joining the DMO and Trustee Angelillo on April 6th and 7th should let DMO Lotkowitz know directly. A van will be rented to drive to the manufacturing plant outside of Toronto, Canada, approximately 5hrs away. DMO Lotkowitz explained that the logistics are still being worked out.

Comm. Dolmatch stated that while reviewing the proposed FYE'12 budget, at the recent budget meeting, he noticed that there were no funds allocated for the continuation of GHD's fees in the water budget, which is unrealistic. He asked DMO Lotkowitz to inform Clerk/Treasurer Couch of this oversight. DMO Lotkowitz said that he already gave her an estimate of all costs, including soft costs. Comm. Dolmatch asked if the Village Board planned on bonding this UV project, like with West Lake Street, or would it be "pay-as-we-go". DMO Lotkowitz stated that West Lake Street would be completed in a "pay-as-we-go" manner. He explained the most recent County grant program will return up to 50% of recently cut Sales Tax money to us for infrastructure improvements. The money needs to be spent in order to be awarded. West Lake Street's completion will be staggered over the next three years. We've currently been granted \$89,000, which will be used for sanitary sewer system repairs this summer to be performed by both our DPW forces and outside forces. Comm. Hall asked what the projected cost is for the UV disinfection project. DMO Lotkowitz stated that there is a \$400,000 grant applied for to the State that would help pay for: integrating our water system with the town reservoirs, tank refurbishing, a chlorine disinfection system, and the cryptosporidium system, but not the variable speed pumps. Comm. Hall asked him to go over the finances again as to what the excess planned costs are for this system, already taking into consideration the State's money. DMO Lotkowitz restated that the Village and Town have put in an application for consolidation of services from the State and can be awarded \$200,000 each, thus totaling \$400,000. Excess cost was not identified. Comm. Dolmatch asked if we are proceeding with the Variable Speed Pump portion of the project or not. DMO Lotkowitz and Comm. Moffa stated we are proceeding with it. It is necessary for the UV project. Comm. Dolmatch asked if we are still going to get the grant. DMO Lotkowitz said that he has a meeting in the morning regarding that bid, which is for \$58,000

Comm. Dolmatch asked if the equipment price guarantee is for 90 or 120 days. DMO Lotkowitz replied that it is guaranteed for 120 days, which brings us to the end of June or early July. Comm. Dolmatch estimated that we are still on schedule.

Stimulus Bill-Status of Applications

DMO Lotkowitz said the two different grants he's working on are described above and currently being reviewed. They are the Consolidation Grant from the State and the Infrastructure Grant from the County. He had no report on the GIGP (Green Innovation Grant Program)-Solar Demonstration grant or other grants he's applied for.

Insulation Program IEEP/NYPA

DMO Lotkowitz asked that the title of this topic include: Energy Conservation updates, as he has no update on the insulation program. In an effort to conserve, DMO Lotkowitz has released two new programs that are available to IEEP members, which we are. He described to the members, "As a municipal electric utility provider, are allowed to tack on a 10th of a percent charge/kwh on rate payers' electric bills to fund energy conservation projects". He stated that the local paper would be interviewing him on Wednesday and the two programs that we are offering will be described. Rebates are being offered to replace old, out-dated appliances with Energy Star conserving ones. Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL's) bulbs will be given away, two at a time, also. These, 75W (19W consumed), have the potential to save approx \$23.00 each over the life of the bulb, which is approx. 10,000 hrs. (Using the average of 4.5 cents per kwh). He has yet to work out the details with the local hardware store on the distribution of the bulbs, but details will follow. Comm. Moffa encouraged DMO Lotkowitz to mention to the press Wednesday, that the Village endorses the Alternative Energy Technology (AET) group and that the UV Disinfection project is well under way.

CNY Climate Change Innovation Program

DMO Lotkowitz said that the Village is still waiting for them to send a contract to be signed.

AMR

DMO Lotkowitz stated that, contrary to his belief, there are other manufacturers that allow Senses to read their meters. He obtained three different quotes for our district water meters from: Badger, Neptune and Senses. Neptune and Senses work together, they share their information. He was told that the transmitter would have to be supplied by Senses, however. He is fairly confident that we have competition now and he will review their various submittals and make sure we're comparing apples to apples. Comm. Dolmatch asked if we are currently metering the different branches of our electric system. DMO replied that we only meter at the resident's homes, but we do have a large meter at the substation provided by the New York Power Authority (NYPA) and it's calibrated every year. Comm. Dolmatch asked if we monitor our un-metered sales and see where we are losing money. **DMO Lotkowitz will check the report to see that everything is accounted for.**

Regarding the billing interface, DMO Lotkowitz explained that since 2/28/11 meeting, two new hard drives were installed at the water tower, a Windows based and a Lenox based. The Lenox based drive ties into the antenna system. The Windows based drive still being updated; it's being done at night. Once they are both in place, some of the billing issues should disappear. They allow multipliers to be read and the four to six digit issues should disappear. We received 200 of a new two-way type of MXU, (devices on outside of the house), in exchange for uninstalled one-ways. Comm. Hall asked what we would be transmitting to the MXU's. DMO Lotkowitz said we currently don't have the capability to send anything to them, and we will still need another 200 after those we just received. As part of our current deal, with credits owed to us, etc. we also received a \$6,000 End-Point Programmer at no charge. DMO Lotkowitz stated that only about 10 new water meters were installed in the last couple of weeks due to the delay in receiving and training on the new device. He said that with the snow clearing and the man-power not needing to plow the snow, he will get the crews back to installing more regularly.

Rate Calculation for Electric billing to residents

DMO Lotkowitz will meet Curt Wilson tomorrow and discuss his needs in order to get his study started. Comm. Moffa asked if he will need an estimate of infrastructure needs. DMO Lotkowitz stated that CHA (Clough Harbour & Associates) will be working on the infrastructure report and Curt Wilson is working on the rate study report. We will then merge the two. Discussion ensued on the application presented at the last meeting that is being worked on by Comm. Blackwell, DMO Lotkowitz, and the YMCA to increase our Hydro-electric power allocation, due to the jobs they will be creating with the addition of another rink and a basketball court. DMO Lotkowitz noted that the rate study may not be necessary if we can increase our hydro-allocation. Comm. Hall asked if both studies will be done by the early part of April. DMO Lotkowitz said that the Wilson report will be at least four more weeks. He said the CHA infrastructure study is being fine-tuned right now and will be ready by the time the Wilson report is done in about a month.

Comm. Moffa stated that he and Comm. Blackwell have not gotten together on this topic yet. DMO Lotkowitz explained the current rate structure the village adheres to; the incremental steps used to calculate the commercial and residential consumers bills in the summer and winter. It's agreed this may be a good time to evaluate our step structure due to the increased activity with more consumption on various properties. DMO Lotkowitz suggested that a third step be added for the excessive consumers and **will provide the members with the PSC (Public Service Commission) guidelines on rate structure.** He said it has been over 20 years since this has been reviewed. Comm. Moffa asked that everyone contribute to this conflict (conservation vs. disproportionate use) in philosophy. DMO Lotkowitz reminded that the Village Electric Department is in business to earn capital on the sale of kwh's. **He also stated that he received a packet at the last MEUA conference, regarding "How to Increase Rates" with the PSC. He will distribute it to the members.** Concrete alternatives will be discussed at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Wind Turbine-Local Law Adoption

DMO Lotkowitz stated this topic was initiated by a resident's request for a building permit from Codes Enforcement officer Battle. At that time, Mr. Battle noted that there is no zoning law currently in place for such. The document being worked on by Attorney Byrne and the Zoning Board originated from Special Counsel, Attorney Galbato, who developed it in the course of preparations for another jurisdiction. DMO Lotkowitz wanted to offer the AET (Alternative Energy Technology) committee and the Municipal Board the opportunity to weigh in on it as well. The Town of Skaneateles recently approved their own local law. Comm. Dolmatch noted that he comprised four pages of comments regarding the preliminary document forwarded by Attorney Byrne to him for review. Comm. Moffa stated that the AET's is in the process of producing a 10,000 foot study of the various sized windmills on the market, their savings and the conversion of power, etc. Since it is a volunteer committee, it may be three months down the road. He feels it may be worth contacting this resident now and explaining that the payback may be 30-50 years even with the grants available. Since our Village electric is so cheap, it isn't economically feasible. Comm. Moffa feels the resident may have not completed all of their research. Comm. Moffa canvassed the board with the question: "What position should the Municipal board take on this topic"? Comm. Dolmatch said that when the AET's report is complete, it should be presented to the Village Board and Attorney Byrne. Comm. Moffa said that it would most definitely, but it may not be timely enough for this resident. DMO Lotkowitz offered that the Village Board could enact a moratorium on this topic until the AET's report is produced. **Comm. Dolmatch would like to have Attorney Byrne check on this type of situation, what resident's rights and restrictions are with out a local law.**

(Insert Comm. Blackwell's 3/25/11 comments sent via email in regards to Attorney Byrne's draft Local Law on Wind Turbines in the Village)

Next Meeting

It was confirmed that the next Regular meeting will be held on Monday, May 2, 2011.

Adjournment

The meeting was moved to adjournment at 8:20 p.m.



Audrey C. Clark
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

My comments are highlighted in red.
Also, you may find the noted websites helpful.*

VILLAGE OF SKANEATELES

LOCAL LAW #1 OF 2011

FOR

WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF SKANEATELES:

Article X of the Code of the Village of Skaneateles is hereby amended to add the following:

§ 225.46.5 WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS.

Purpose.

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Skaneateles adopts this to regulate the placement of wind energy conversion systems so that the public health and safety will not be jeopardized. (There are many aspects of Village living that are in need of protecting; not limited to health and safety).

Deleted: chapter to promote the effective ¶ and efficient use of wind energy conversion systems (WECS) and

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Findings

Deleted: ¶
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A. The Trustees further find and declare that wind energy is an abundant, renewable and ¶ nonpolluting energy resource of the town and that its conversion to electricity will reduce ¶ our dependence on nonrenewable energy sources and decrease the air and water pollution ¶ that results from the use of conventional energy sources.

Some considerations before attempting to prepare Findings:

If the system is connected to the Village grid, safeguards are needed to protect the Electric employees from inadvertent surges during repairs to other sections of the grid. The owner must be responsible for this cost along with periodic assurances from an approved P.E.

Nothing has been studied and presented to the Village. At this time the Village Board should seek out the facts and hold any decision until all the facts are presented and considered.

The reality of available wind energy within the Village may or may not be significant enough to develop. Available data indicates that this area is not a prime source of wind power in the country. Wind turbines can be effective in areas with high, consistent wind conditions and are predominately not located in Central New York (see maps on websites below). If CNY is utilized, the units are best suited to elevated, open areas preferably on a ridgeline.

Village topography impedes efficiency during shifting wind conditions.

Clustered structures and trees challenge performance.

Noise.

Aesthetics.

Cost/benefit without subsidies.

2 KW is quite minimal.

* http://www.windpoweringamerica.gov/pdfs/small_wind/small_wind_ny.pdf
http://www.windpoweringamerica.gov/wind_maps.asp

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B. The Trustees further find and declare that:

- (1) Wind turbines that convert wind energy to electricity are currently available on a commercial and residential basis from many manufacturers.
- (2) The generation of electricity from properly sited wind turbines can be cost

effective,

Deleted: , and in many cases existing power distribution systems can be used to transmit electricity from wind-generating stations to utilities or other users.

*

Deleted: (3) Regulation of the siting and installation of wind turbines is necessary for the purpose of protecting the health and safety of neighboring property owners and the general public.

Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

OVERSPEED CONTROL -- A mechanism used to limit the speed of blade rotation to below the design limits of the WECS.

SITE -- The plot of land where the WECS is to be placed.

SWEPT AREA -- The largest area of the WECS that extracts energy from the wind stream. In a conventional propeller-type WECS, there is a direct relationship between swept area and the rotor diameter.

TOTAL HEIGHT -- The height of the tower and the furthest vertical extension of the WECS measured from the finished grade.

WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEM -- A machine that converts the kinetic energy in the wind into a usable form of mechanical or electrical energy (is commonly known as a "wind turbine" or "windmill.") The WECS includes all parts of the system except the tower and the transmission equipment; the turbine or windmill may be on a horizontal or vertical axis, rotor or propeller.

Permits Required.

A. Installation of wind energy conversion systems shall require the granting of a special permit in accordance with Article X of the Village Code, and Critical Impact approval in accordance with Article XI of the Village Code.

Requirements.

Wind energy conversion systems shall be permitted in all zoning districts, subject to the following requirements:

A. WECS size shall be limited to a maximum of 2KW.

B. Building Permit application for wind energy conversion system shall be accompanied by a site plan drawn in sufficient detail to clearly describe the following.

(1) Property lines and physical dimensions of the site.

(2) Location, approximate dimensions and types of existing structures and uses on site.

(3) Location and elevation of the proposed WECS.

(4) Location of all aboveground utility lines on site or within one radius of the TOTAL HEIGHT of the WECS.

(5) Location and size of structures and trees above 35 feet within a five-hundred-foot

radius of the proposed WECS. For purposes of this requirement, electrical transmission and distribution lines, antennas and slender or open lattice towers are not considered structures.

(6) Show the zoning designation of immediate and adjacent sites.

(7) Include make, model, picture and manufacturer's specifications, including noise rating in decibels.

C. General provisions. Installation of all wind energy conversion systems shall comply with the following requirements:

(1) WECS size. This chapter covers all WECS.

(2) Compliance with Uniform Building Code.

(a) Building permit applications shall be accompanied by standard drawings of the structural components of the wind energy conversion system, including support structures, tower, base and footings. Drawings and any necessary calculations shall be certified, in writing, by a New York State registered professional engineer that the system complies with the New York State Fire Prevention and Building Code. This certification would normally be supplied by the manufacturer.

(b) Where the structural components or installation vary from the standard design or specification, the proposed modifications shall be certified by a New York State registered professional engineer for compliance with the seismic and structural design provisions of the New York State Fire Prevention and Building Code.

(3) Compliance with National Electrical Code.

(a) Building permit applications shall be accompanied by a line drawing identifying the electrical components of the wind conversion system to be installed in sufficient detail to allow for a determination that the manner of installation conforms to the National Electrical Code. The application shall include a statement from a New York State registered professional engineer indicating that the electrical system conforms with good engineering practices and complies with the National Electrical Code. This certification would normally be supplied by the manufacturer. All equipment and materials shall be used or installed in accordance with such drawings and diagrams.

(b) Where the electrical components of an installation vary from the standard design or specifications, the proposed modifications shall be reviewed and certified by a New York State registered professional engineer for compliance with the requirements of the National Electrical Code and good engineering practices.

(4) Rotor safety. Each wind energy conversion system must be equipped with both

manual and automatic controls to limit the rotational speed of the blade below the design limits of the rotor. The application must include a statement by a New

York State registered professional engineer certifying that the rotor and overspeed controls have been designed and fabricated for the proposed use in accordance with good engineering practices. The engineer should also certify the structural compatibility of possible towers with available rotors. This certification would normally be supplied by the manufacturer and include the distance and trajectory of the thrown blade from an exploding turbine or propeller according to the Loss of Blade Theory.

(5) The WECS shall be set back from the property line and structures at least the TOTAL HEIGHT of the WECS. In cluster setups the distance between WECS shall be three times the length of the longest blade.

(6) Tower access. Towers should have either:

(a) Tower-climbing apparatus located no closer than 12 feet from the ground;

(b) A locked anti-climb device installed on the tower; or

(c) The tower shall be completely enclosed with a door that can be locked, or

(d) Be completely free of any climbing apparatus.

(e) If the above protective devices are absent than the tower will be protected by a fence at least six feet high.

(7) Electromagnetic interference. The wind energy conversion system shall be operated such that no disruptive electromagnetic interference is caused. If it has been demonstrated to a Code Enforcement Officer that a wind energy conversion system is causing harmful interference, the operator shall promptly mitigate the harmful interference.

(8) Signs. At least one sign shall be posted at the base of the tower warning of electrical shock or high voltage.

(9) Height. Maximum TOTAL HEIGHT of the WECS shall be 35 feet.

(10) Abatement. If a wind energy conversion system or systems are not maintained in operational condition for a period of one year and pose a potential safety hazard, the owner or operator shall take expeditious action to remedy the situation. The Village of Skaneateles reserves the authority to abate any hazardous situation and to pass the cost of such abatement on to the owner or operator of the system. If the Village of Skaneateles determines that the WECS or its tower has been abandoned and poses a safety hazard, the system shall be removed within 45 days of written notice to the owner operator of the system.

(11) Liability insurance. The applicant, owner, lessee or assignee shall maintain a current insurance policy which will cover installation and operation of the wind energy conversion system at all time. Said policy shall provide a minimum of \$300,000.00 property and personal liability coverage.

(12) Lighting of tower. Lighting of the tower and the WECS for aircraft and helicopter will conform to FAA standards for height, wattage and color.

(13) SEQR review must be completed.

(14) All power transmission lines from WECS and tower to any building or other structure shall be located underground.

(15) No television, radio or other communication antenna may be affixed or otherwise made a part of a WECS or tower.

Penalties for offenses.

Any person who violates any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a violation and subject to a fine of not more than \$250, imprisonment not to exceed 15 days, or both such fine and imprisonment.

Effective Date.

This Local Law shall become effective upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Adopted:

Motion by: Trustee

Seconded by: Trustee

Voting in Favor:

Voting in Opposition:

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