

**Bolton Energy Committee  
Special Meeting  
May 16, 2018 7 PM**

The Bolton Energy Committee held a special meeting on May 16, 2018 at the Notch Road Municipal Building. Members in attendance were Chairman Richard Dziadul, Jim Adams, Rod Fornier, Andy McComber. The purpose of this meeting is to examine a business case for the potential solar projects being evaluated.

**1. Call to Order**

Richard Dziadul called the meeting to order at 7:03 P.M.

**2. Public Comment**

None

**3. Ongoing Business**

**a. Prepare a business case for the proposed projects.**

The Energy Committee is respectful of reasonable limitations.

The energy committee wishes to emphasize the historic nature of the town the energy committee should be mindful of placing solar arrays near the historical sites in town, and along the main roads.

The energy committee does not wish to put solar panels on any roof that is not suitable or that is going to be reroofed in the foreseeable future.

If any of these projects are to proceed the window for action in 2018 is October-November. Any of these projects are expected to be installed in the summer of 2019 if they are approved.

**Findings**

R. Dziadul spoke on 5-16-18 with Laura Fidaio (Senior Manager Clean Energy Finance) from the Connecticut Greenbank Commercial Lease Program. There were several findings from this phone call.

Current Costs of PV Systems in Connecticut listed in \$\$/ Watt and in \$\$/ kWh (kilo Watt Hour)

Roof Mount	- \$2.00 - \$2.50/Watt	-- \$2.30 / kWh
Ground Mount	- \$1.80 - \$2.15 /Watt	--\$1.69 / kWh
Carport	- \$2.80 / Watt	--\$2.73 / kWh
Pole Tracker	- \$2.50 - \$300 /Watt	-- \$1.67 / kWh

- Financed costs for a PPA (Power Purchase Agreement) are likely to be 7 – 8 Cents per kWh.
- Bolton is currently paying 8 Cents per kWh for draw charges from Eversource.
- The three sites under consideration are Bolton Center School (BCS), Bolton High School BHS, and the Firestation.
- PPA Providers provide maintenance for as long as they own the system.

- Town can buy the system any time after year 6 at fair market value.
- PPA terms are typically 20 years and the PPA can be extended for another 10 years or either way if the PPA expires the PPA provider will remove the system for free.
- The town would need to hold an RFP (Request for Proposals). Contractors would make bids for installation services of the system and may bring their own financing.
  - Typically the contractors pay the Utility Performance Bond so the town will not need to write a check.

#### **ZREC (Zero Energy Renewable Energy Credits)**

- The current ZREC value for Small ZREC Systems is \$.09942 per kWh.
- There will be a ZREC Auction in 2019. One year extension.

#### **Discussion of the Business Case for the potential solar projects.**

The Energy Committee feels that the example pricing discovered during our research is too high and would not provide enough savings to the town. Other financing avenues are available and the Energy Committee will research those as well. If an acceptable solution is found the Energy Committee will provide an assessment to the Board of Selectmen.

#### **4. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:13 PM

Prepared by Richard Dziadul 6/25/18