



RECEIVED

MAR 11 2014

TOWN CLERK
ACTON

**GREEN ADVISORY BOARD
DECEMBER 16, 2013
MINUTES**

**ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY
486 MAIN STREET - CONFERENCE ROOM
6:30 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Hudson, Bruce Friedman, Padamaja Kuchimanchi, David Keene, Dennis Loria

MUNICIPAL PROPERTIES DIRECTOR: Dean Charter

ENERGY CONSERVATION ANALYST: Pamela Cady

GREEN ADVISOR TO THE SCHOOLS: Kate Crosby

RECORDING SECRETARY: Andrea Ristine

VISITOR: none

6:42 Meeting called to order.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Keene moved to approve the minutes for November 18, 2013, Mr. Hudson 2nd; unanimous.

Energy Efficiency Upgrades

Mr. Charter reported that he met with a vendor and Wellesley Municipal Light regarding pricing of light-emitting diodes (LED) street lights. The cost for LED street lights has gone down to approximately \$300 per fixture. The High Pressure Sodium (HPS) lights along Great Road will be the first to be converted. The previous street light conversion that the Town did will be amortized by the end of this fiscal year. New conversions to LED street lights are expected to reduce street light electricity consumption by 40-60%; he hopes to have the lights on Great Road converted this coming spring. LEDs have a 10 year warranty with a life expectancy of approximately 22 years, thus significantly reducing maintenance costs. The Town will need to provide LED data for the lighting equipment to NStar in order to have tariffs adjusted. NStar billing to the Town for street lights is based on the number and type of lights. Currently subdivisions have 50 watt metal halides (MH) and main roads have 100 watt MHs. The new LEDs will be 40 watts; the LED equivalent for a 100 watt MHs fixture uses only uses 40 watts of power. He and

the Director of Public Works are also investigating solar powered LED street lights for areas that have poles without power at some crosswalk locations. Energy studies have been done at the Memorial Library and Town Hall; some upgrades have been done but one vendor seems to think he can squeeze some more efficiency in those buildings. Ms. Cady is working on evaluating six other buildings for better efficiency.

Upon query by Mr. Loria, Mr. Charter reported that timing of automatic doors is mandated by the handicap code under the Americans with Disabilities Act; he is still working with an architect and engineer regarding the replacement of the existing doors in the Memorial Library with a motorized revolving door.

Upon query by Mr. Keene, Ms. Cady reported that the 61 street light replacements planned along Great Road should save the Town approximately over 19,000 kWh in electricity per year. Mr. Charter stated that he is waiting for the written price proposal from Wellesley Municipal Light.

Green Revolving Fund Update

Mr. Charter reported that the Budget Book Working Group (BBWG) has chosen not to fund the account but did maintain the Green Advisory Board's operating budget. The Town does have other revolving funds but the finance department is not fond of revolving funds.

Mr. Charter noted that, with the school's regionalization, the Town will have the added responsibility of paying all the retirement costs of the public school employees which has always been within the school's budget. Ms. Crosby noted that the Conant and Douglas schools are currently Town buildings which will become part of the regional school district.

7:21 Landfill Solar Update

Mr. Charter reported that the facility is not yet up and running, Mass Electric has stated that they are hoping it will be online by the end of this week; the inter-connection is not done yet but they are working on it. Mr. Charter believes that it will be at least a month before it is up and running.

Property Assessed Clean Energy Program Senate Bill #177

Mr. Charter noted that this information was sent out with the agenda (*attached*). The Commonwealth of Massachusetts needs to pass the law first before the Town could opt in. The law would provide loans for energy conservation projects for commercial and industrial construction and some residential developments with more than five residences may be eligible.

Mr. Loria suggested that the Board should put in their 'two-cents' in support of Bill #177 when the time comes as he feels that it has merit.

7:34 Green Communities Grant Annual Report

Ms. Cady and Ms. Crosby presented the annual report submitted to the Green Communities Division noting ongoing, completed and upcoming new efficiency projects.

8:25 Behavior Modification Update

Ms. Cady provided potential ideas for the program's posters.

Upon query by Mr. Hudson, Ms. Cady stated that she needs to recruit team members. Mr. Hudson suggested that they come up with a plan on how to recruit members, plan on how the behavior modifications can be initiated, and execute the program.

Mr. Keene suggested a time line calendar be devised.

Mr. Charter stated that department head staff meetings are every Wednesday morning; he has previewed the concept to staff but need to focus and have Ms. Cady present. January 8, 2014 would be the closest staff meeting date that this could occur.

Mr. Keene stated that they need a good way to pitch the program and is willing to attend to help pitch the behavioral modification program to staff.

Upon query by the Board, Mr. Charter and Ms. Ristine reported that the letter from the Board of Selectmen supporting and implementing the program, voted on November 8, 2013, has not been received yet.

8:42 Stretch Code Update

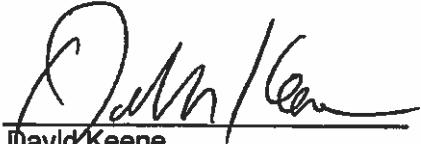
Mr. Friedman reported that he attended a Department of Environmental Resources (DOER) meeting; currently there is not a "stretch code" but is currently being developed; he hopes to have additional information for next month's Board meeting. Ms. Cady stated that she will speak to the Town's Building Commissioner or Building Inspector to try to get them to attend an upcoming Board meeting.

Annual Town Report

Mr. Charter will send out a draft report to board members before the next meeting; the annual report is due January 1, 2014.

Next Meeting – January 13, 2014

8:47 Meeting adjourned.



David Keene,
Chair



**GREEN ADVISORY BOARD
DECEMBER 16, 2013
AGENDA**

**ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY
486 MAIN STREET - CONFERENCE ROOM
6:30 PM**

1. Approve Minutes - November 18
6. Energy Efficiency Upgrades
Dean Charter - may have proposals in hand for town buildings & street lights
4. Green Revolving Fund Update
8. Landfill Solar Update
9. Property Assessed Clean Energy Program Senate Bill #177 – Attached with agenda packet
2. Report on Green Communities Grant Annual Report
3. Behavior Modification Update
5. Stretch Code update
10. Annual Town Report – Due January 1, 2014

Next Meeting – January 13, 2014