

## **Northfield Energy Committee Minutes**

**2/28/18**

### **Town Hall**

Present: Susan O'Connor, Annie Chappell, Lynn Hansell, Judy Wagner.  
Also joining : Janice Kurkoski, Warwick Buildings and Energy Committee  
Called to order 5:38 p.m.

#### Green Communities Competitive Grant Review

##### **I. NES Projects:**

- #1 Insulate all three attics
- #2 Passive ventilation in the middle building
- #3 Weatherstripping exterior doors
- #4 Destrat fans

Energia performed a walk-through on Monday, February 26 to provide a cost estimate for insulation projects #1 - #3 above. Tom Rossmassler of Energia will have the estimates for us by 3/1/18 or 3/2/18. Annie reports that his initial feeling is that the project will be between \$75,000 and \$100,000.

Ben Weil of ECC will calculate closer numbers on energy savings and payback once he has more accurate attic dimension measurements from Energia.

##### **II. PVRs Projects**

Janice Reports that Warwick Buildings and Energy Committee is fine with splitting the cost of PVRs projects with Northfield Energy Committee 50/50. They are happy that Janice is doing the grant research and writing and is very supportive. The Warwick Select Board is also supportive and Janice does not expect any concerns from the board in accepting the grant proposal.

- #1 Wall-ceiling insulation and doors (\$108,000)
- #2 Transformers (\$35,860 with incentive)
- #3 Motors and Drives (\$108,384)
- #4 Destrat fans (\$5,563)

The above costs are based on ECI estimates as of 2/26/18

Lots of discussion ensued about motors and drives at PVRs. They look good from the ECI data in terms of energy savings and a 2.9 yr. payback. We still would like to get feedback from ECC regarding the estimates and other considerations (such as controls) before we feel comfortable including them in the grants.

III. Library Projects

- #1 Window inserts
- #2 Domestic Hot Water
- #3 ASHP
- #4 Lighting

Annie is working on writing this part. She is making progress. Overall cost of projects is about \$20,000.

IV. Including line in Competitive Grant application for staff person(s) for Northfield Energy Committee and Warwick Buildings and Energy Committee to share.

- \$30,000 (with Warwick and Northfield including \$15,000 each in their applications).
- The goal would be for one staff person (possibly someone from FRCOG) to be able to complete quarterly reports, annual reports and manage MEI data, etc. Another staff person who is experienced in contractor work could coordinate implementation of projects and link contractor(s) and schools (a Clerk of the Works).

Procurement Process

Update for members regarding different views about procurement process. We hear from DOER that under Chapter 25A, if an Investor Owned Utility sponsored vendor (an expeditor) does an energy audit and the total cost of the energy saving project is less than \$100,000 and we wish to use that auditor to do the project, we can approve that without going through the procurement process. Warwick has engaged in Green Communities Project vendors and contractors in this way before. The thought is that ECI would qualify as such a vendor under Chapter 25A.

The Northfield Town Administrator, Willie Morales, who has had a lot of town procurement experience, would prefer that we follow Chapter 30b Sec. 6 which requires that we follow a procurement procedure which allows us to consider contractors who meet both cost and criteria-based standards in awarding the work.

The Town Administrator recently asked the Northfield Energy Committee to put in a warrant article for Town Meeting in May which would allow us \$2,000 for support from Andrea Wood at FRCOG to assist us in the procurement process should we follow Chapter 30b, Section 6.

We are still in discussions regarding which process to follow.



### Motions for the Committee

Lynn moved to accept the Green Communities Competitive Grant activities discussed in the 2/28/18 Energy Committee meeting this evening as spelled out for the Northfield Elementary School and the Dickinson Memorial Library. Annie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Lynn moved to accept the Green Communities Grant activities for Pioneer Valley Regional School as discussed in the 2/28/18 Energy Committee meeting this evening pending recommendations from UMass Clean Energy Extension (CEE) on motors and drives. Annie seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 7:28 p.m.