

Approved March 19, 2010

Minutes of Wellfleet Energy Committee Meeting
Monday, March 8, 2010, 1 pm at Town Hall Hearing Room

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:10PM. Present were Geof Karlson, Peter Stewart, and Dick Elkin. The lack of a quorum was noted. Jim Sexton arrived at 1:20 and the presence of a quorum was noted. Dick Elkin took minutes.
2. The committee adopted the agenda.
3. The minutes of the 3/2/10 meeting were reviewed and amended to remove a characterization of the 1 March 2010 Wind Turbine Forum from a member of the audience. The amended minutes were adopted.
4. The committee discussed moving the excess funding for the solar panel on the fire station to other solar projects, since a grant had been received for the fire station solar panels. Rex Peterson confirmed that the funding was in hand and the contract for the fire station could be modified. He stated that a letter had been received by the town confirming that the roof was adequate for the solar panel and the warrantee on the roof tiles would not be voided by the connection of the solar panels.
5. Town meeting warrant article votes: Two versions of the zoning bylaw will be discussed by the selectmen at their meeting on Tuesday, 3/9/2010. One is as submitted by Dennis O'Connell, and one submitted by the committee that restricts the balloon test to be 100 feet or less from the actual site. Dick Elkin commented that the time limits for the test might unduly constrain the period when the committee can apply for the special permit. Dick was told to bring that up at the Board of Selectmen's meeting on Tuesday.
6. The agenda for the proposed April 10, 2010 wind turbine public information meeting was discussed. The proposed topics were reviewed. It was decided that acoustics should have the afternoon session, beginning at 1:00 PM and that the other topics should be discussed in the morning sessions beginning at 9:30. Wind Turbine Project Updates. It was decided to take written questions in advance via email and from the floor.

7. There were no comments on the answers to FinCom questions (passed out last week).
8. Vinalhaven Acoustic Study and Addendum distributed. The Wellfleet acoustic studies are so much lower than the Vinalhaven predictions that the committee believes that if the predictions are valid, there will be no issues. More effort will be directed to determining if the Vinalhaven studies were representative of the actual measurements obtained in the field after the turbines went operational. The committee noted that we had commissioned an additional study, over and above what the consultant recommended, to analyze low frequency components of the noise. Jim Sexton, Geof Karlson, and Dick Elkin indicated that they would be visiting Vinalhaven the week of March 22 to hear the turbines and the residents opinions at first hand. Jim indicated that he had received offer from one of the people affected by the noise to stay overnight at her house, but was not sure what arrangements could be made for the entire group.
9. The preliminary MESA report was just received and Geof will send it to committee members. Geof summarized that the report is not final and a complete report will be issued when the "cut and fill" plans are submitted after the route to the site is determined.
10. The next committee meeting was set for Tuesday, 16 March, 2010 at 4:00 PM at the Town Hall.
11. There was no other business for the committee as a whole, and the open meeting was adjourned so that a subcommittee could convene to review and evaluate the submissions in response to the RFP. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.