

**Select Board  
Minutes  
July 12, 2016**

---

Leverett Town Hall, 7 pm Documents referred to/presented: chart by Shirely, Eversource letter

Present: Julie S., Peter D., Tom H., Lisa S., Rob from MR

**Energy Committee** (Present: Portia W., Judith D., Cynthia T-K., Shirley T., Brooke T., and George L.

After having requested bids for energy aggregation the board met with the Energy Com. All were aware that the Select Board would make the final decision at this meeting. Colonial and Good Energy both supplied figures for 12 and 24 mo. periods using 50-50% Class I and II RECs, 100% ME Class II, and 100% MA Class I. Colonial's prices were lower in 2 of the 3 categories. There was discussion about the fact the numbers were fractionally lower, that some on the Energy Com. thought that Good Energy's intentions for "greening" the planet were more genuine. Peter reminded the meeting that a Class I REC is a Class I REC regardless of what company you purchase it from.

The discussion then turned to how to "market" or explain the different options to residents and which option the base should be. Again, all agreed that diverting money from brown energy was a worthy goal, and making the base attractive enough that residents don't opt out was the goal. Most agreed that going with the lowest rate (100% ME Class II) would save residents money and eliminate the purchase of brown energy through Eversource if folks didn't opt out... and why would they if they're saving money?

**Motion: To go forward with aggregation using Colonial with 100% ME Class II RECs as the base. Vote: 3-0 favor.**

The Energy Committee will begin to discuss how to formulate their informational sessions and give the Select Board a demo when ready.

**Business:**

The Board signed end of year transfers.

The minutes of June 28 were approved as written.

**Motion: To sign the Financial Policies as recommended by the Treasurer and the Finance Committee and signed and dated July 12, 2016. Vote: 3-0 in favor.**

The board agreed that after 30 days if the Crocker/Prince situation has not been resolved that they will ask Margie to call for mediation services including asking them to contact the two parties. If mediation is not agreed to, court action will follow.

Julie gave an update on the Regional Assessment meetings. Shutesbury is insisting that they do not have the "ability to pay." This lead to an effort to define "ability to pay" which can't be based on income since the state uses zip codes to report income tax and some towns have zip codes that cross town lines. The board supported Julie's stance that the 5-year rolling average is fair and equitable and that ability to pay is more complex than Shutesbury thinks.

The IT contract with Haas was signed.

The MOU for Transfer Station Hauling and Wood Pellet Bag Recycling Sheds were signed.

The covenant for Affordable Housing Trust was signed. Lisa will bring it and the check to Gary Gruber's house once the check is received.

Thank you's were signed and the generosity of two individuals noted.

The board agreed with Ananda's position to not charge a late fee for the purchase of Transfer Station stickers and instead conduct random audits to make sure stickers are up-to-date. The board also noted that she is doing a great job. Margie will attend a meeting in Shutesbury on July 21 to discuss their use of the station.

The mail was read.

**Motion: To go into executive session with regard to real estate transactions and not to return to regular session. Shively, aye; d'Errico, aye; Hankinson, aye. (8:45 pm)**