

TOWN OF HOLLISTON

SELECT BOARD

January 21, 2021

6:30PM

Town Hall
703 Washington Street

Present: John Cronin, Chair; Tina Hein, Vice Chair; Ben Sparrell, Clerk.

Also Present: Travis Ahern, Town Administrator; Beth Greenblatt, Beacon Integrated Solutions Representative; Rennie Friedman, Director Project Development with Sol Systems.

At 6:30pm J. Cronin called the meeting to order.

MARSHALL STREET SOLAR PROJECT

J. Cronin began the meeting by introducing Beth Greenblatt of Beacon Integrated Solutions and Rennie Friedman the Director of Project Development with Sol Systems whom were attending the meeting via zoom to hold an open forum for the Solar Project on Marshall Street.

B. Greenblatt presented a slide to outline the Project Overview. She expressed her thanks to everyone in Town whom she has worked with and appreciates how engaged they are in the effort to see the project come to fruition. The solar array will be located on Marshall Street at the former landfill site. In 2019 they hosted a conference which resulted in 14 proposals of which the Select Board interviewed 3 firms, and selected Sol Systems. Sol Systems is moving along as quickly as possible to get the Solar Project on Marshall Street up and running. The projected output is 4.2 million kilowatt-hours for municipal buildings within Town, with an estimated benefit of \$500,000 per year up to 12.5 million over a 25 year term.

B. Greenblatt turned the presentation over to Rennie Friedman, Director of Project Development with Sol Systems. He also presented slides which included the design of the proposed site. He stated that the landfill has been closed for over 30 years and the site itself is in very good condition. There will be 8,000 solar panels on racks the will connect to concrete blocks that will lay on top of the cap. This will ensure that the weight of the racks and blocks do not disturb the landfill below. There will also be 5 containers housing the battery storage units. These will each contain a HAVC system, including fire suppression devices.

Chief Cassidy addressed a question of fire safety at the site by responding that the fire hydrants located on Marshall Street should be sufficient in the event the fire department is called to a fire at that location.

R. Friedman also noted that the sound, noise created by the converters is well below the acceptable levels, and that the inverters only run when there is active sunshine. He added that there will be a 7 foot fence around the 8.5 acre site. The fence will be secured by cement blocks and there will be no drilling what so ever at the site.

The design will not impact the Recycling Center and does allow room for expansion of the

center should it be needed.

R. Friedman went on to explain that the path of the project is interconnected with Eversource. All studies regarding the interconnection look very encouraging. ASO, Affected System Operator level will determine when the project can be brought on line. If Sol Systems receives a ASO 1 the project may be brought on line the Fall 2021, or if they receive a ASO 3 it may be the Spring of 2022. R. Friedman anticipates having the rating within the next several months. The next step will be to file a Notice of Intent with the Conservation Commission at which point the Conservation Commission will have a public hearing. Then once a builder is selected they will go forward with the permits needed.

B. Sparrell suggested adding cameras on site for added security. He also inquired about the life expectancy of the batteries. R. Friedman responded that he would look into the specifics on both matters.

J. Cronin asked if R. Friedman could speak to the possibility of Sol Systems selling their interest in future. R. Friedman responded that Sol Systems is committed to their partnership with Holliston. They will look to sponsor a youth soccer team and also plan to establish a scholarship for Holliston High School students that may be interested in energy related studies.

At 7:35pm the Board members thanked both B. Greenblatt and R. Friedman for their time and presentation.

COMMENTS FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:

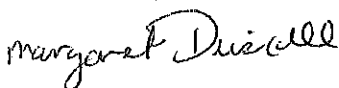
T. Ahern stated that as of 4:00pm today, Thursday 21, 2021 the town had received 2 submissions for the HCVE Traffic Study. He will put the item on the agenda for the next meeting.

Representative Dykema sent an update on the bond bill. T. Ahern will have a written update at a future meeting.

Following the most recent MMA conference T. Ahern will put together a report of the various opportunities available.

At 7:44pm B. Sparrell made a motion to adjourn. T. Hein second. Vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted;



Margaret Driscoll

Approved 2/16/21