

**Town of Sharon**  
**Municipal Solar Oversight Committee**  
**Minutes for 07/19/2023 meeting held 4:30 pm to 5:15 pm on Zoom**

**Welcome**

Committee Attendees: George Aronson (Chair), Xander Shapiro, Chris Pimental (3/5).

Not present: Rob Maidman, Silas Fyler

Guest Attendees: Jay Tobin (Town Energy Manager) Allen Giles (Solect)

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes were reviewed from the Committee meeting on June 6, 19, 2023 and approved by a vote of 3-0.

**Status of existing projects**

- East Elementary School canopy solar PV. Operating. 450.92 MWh generated from commercial operation date to today; 128.64 MWh in 2023 to date.
- Heights Elementary School rooftop solar PV. Operating, but down for maintenance awaiting coordination with Eversource. 637.5 MWh generated from commercial operation date to today, 103.71 MWh 2023 to date.
  - For more than a month, Eversource has not acted in response to a Solect Work Order request. Solect will send the Work Order information and George will follow up on elevating the response.
- Heights Elementary School battery energy storage system (BESS). Physical work is done. Eversource approval of energization scheduled for end of June is being delayed (see above).
- Mountain Street Landfill project: Per Jackie Bruce, project manager, DSD received the final amended MassDEP Post-Closure Use Permit and is confirming availability of the battery before submitting final plans to DPW for ministerial permit review. Also need to finalized Site lease Schedules 1 and 2. Project has secured PSOQ for Block 7. Construction is targeted to mobilize in late summer 2023.
- Gavin's Pond parking lot canopy. Eversource determined that an impact study will be required. Timeline is indefinite.
- High School rooftop project. A recloser/RTEC will be required. Eversource reported that the system impact study is ongoing.
- DPW project. Allen confirmed that the LOIs have been signed. A structural engineer confirmed that the roof is sufficiently sturdy to support the added weight of solar panels without reinforcement. Town responded to agreements sent by Solect, including new language on canopies. Solect will respond shortly.
- Middle School project. Eversource confirmed that a system impact study will not be required. Solect is applying for interconnection service agreement and for SMART block (7 or 8). (Later in the meeting). Solect is holding off on including EV charging stations, but will have project carry an allowance for conduit and charger installation should it be desired at a future date.

**Well #5 project.**

From prior meeting: project capacity of 720 kWDC (480 kWAC) based on staying outside of 500-foot wellhead protection area on treeless scrub area north of the well toward Gavins Pond Road.

Project would not be visible to any residences. Nearest residence is across Gavins Pond Road by access road entrance.

- Project would generate AOBC credits for Water Department meter via Schedule Z. Town would be responsible for applying credits. Finance Department is not familiar with AOBC credit projects, but Energy Manager Jay Tobin would manage this.
- Site walk scheduled with Planning Board for July 18, starting at 2 pm.
- Goal of securing authority to sign agreements at Fall Town Meeting.

Discussion of draft LOI distributed prior to meeting. Standard form per Power Options. No adverse comments during discussion. Motion made to recommend to the Town, acting through the Town Manager and Select Board as appropriate, to enter into the LOI with Solect for development of a solar PV project in buffer area around Well #5 off Gavins Pond Road.

Resolution passed 3-0.

**Library project**

The Town Library Board of Trustees announced to residents via email that the Town has signed a contract with a general contractor to commence with construction. George then contacted the architect, Drayton Fair, regarding whether the building is designed to be solar ready. Plans were provided to Solect, which is reviewing them and doing a Heliscope preliminary design. The area of interest has an asphalt shingle roof. First pass indicates space for at least 80 kW of panels, although space in electrical room will be limited. Having three conduit runs and 3-inch conduit is adequate. Solect will respond by the end of July.

**Roof program** A program authorizing \$100M for new roofs on schools that would install solar PV has passed the House and is under review in the Senate. Passage is expected in October 2023. Grant money would likely be allocated based on progress in the development process – points for completing design, having an LOI, submitting an ISAL application, etc. Town candidates include Cottage Elementary and the Middle School. Next step is to follow up with Tony Kopacz.

**Monitoring reports** - Allen stated that, on request, Solect provides quarterly reports on its installation. The Committee made the request.

Next meeting date set for Monday, August 21, 2023, time and agenda to be confirmed

**Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm**

**Approved by vote of 3-0 (two absent) at MSOC meeting on August 21, 2023.**