

TOWN OF GILL

MASSACHUSETTS



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SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 11, 2016

Call to Order: The Selectboard meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM.

Members Present: Greg Snedeker, John Ward, Randy Crochier

Members Absent: none

Others Present: Ray Purington, Admin. Assistant; Janet Masucci; Kent Alexander; David Hastings

Part-Time Police Officers: Police Chief David Hastings met with the Selectboard to discuss the appointment of part-time police officers. At the June 27th meeting, the Selectboard opted to appoint the nine part-time officers and one matron for only one month, to provide time to meet with the Chief and discuss whether there are officers who do not work any shifts for the Town.

Of the nine part-time officers, Hastings said they have experience ranging from 3 to more than 20 years in law enforcement. Six of the nine are full-time, police academy-trained officers in other communities. Not all have done shifts for the Town, but all meet the annual training requirements for going on the road. Those requirements include first aid/CPR, firearms, and tactics, with a total of 40 hours of training per year.

Bill Tomb and Lynda Hodsdon Mayo joined the meeting at 5:38 PM.

John raised a concern with having part-time officers who do not work shifts, and that officers whose only work is private details might be taking work away from officers who do work shifts. Hastings explained that details are offered to all members of the Department, with the full-time officers getting first priority. Details to part-time officers are assigned by order of their response.

Gene Beaubien, Ken Sears, and Stu Elliott joined the meeting at 5:45 PM.

Hastings stated that there is no additional cost to the Town for training part-time officers, as each officer is responsible for getting his/her own training. Ray estimated that each part-time officer adds \$150 - \$200 annually to the Town's insurance costs.

John asked to have a list of which officers have done shifts, call outs, etc. in the past year. Randy expanded the request to include the Fire and Highway Departments. Ray will notify the three departments of the request.

Randy made a motion, seconded by Greg, to appoint the nine part-time officers and one matron thru June 30, 2017. The motion carried by a vote of 2 – 1. Hastings left the meeting at 5:51 PM.

Appointment of an Assessor: Bill Tomb, a Boyle Road resident, has volunteered to serve as an Assessor, and fill the vacancy left by the "failure to elect" at the May 2016 town election. The Selectboard thanked him for stepping forward to fill this important position. Vacancies in elected positions are filled by a joint vote of the Selectboard and the other members of the board with the vacancy, so Ray, as one of the Assessors, joined in the vote. Randy made a motion, seconded by Greg, to appoint Bill Tomb as an Assessor thru May 15, 2017 (the next town election). The vote was unanimous in the affirmative, 4 – 0. Bill Tomb and Lynda Hodsdon Mayo left the meeting at 5:53 PM.

Fire Department Annual Purchase Orders: The Selectboard reviewed the Fire Department's list of annual purchase orders for FY 17. Randy made a motion, seconded by Greg, to approve the list. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Fire Truck Pump Service: Fire Chief Gene Beaubien reported that KME Equipment was on site July 1st to check over the pumps on all three engines. Repairs are needed for Engine 2 and Engine 3, however an estimate of the cost was not available. By consensus, the Selectboard approved a PO without a dollar limit for the needed repairs.

Beaubien noted that he will schedule the pump testing for this fall. Testing will be done in conjunction with another town in order to get a better price.

Fire Personnel: Beaubien reported that Kyle Kendall resigned from the Fire Department effective today. The Selectboard accepted the resignation with regret. Beaubien stated that Scott Nicholas will assume the Fire Prevention Officer position, and will be doing smoke detector & carbon monoxide detector inspections.

Fire Department Air Packs: Beaubien reported that while the Fire Department has still not received a decision from FEMA on the grant application to replace the air packs and bottles, he has little hope that we will receive the grant. The Selectboard asked for an inventory of the air packs, masks, and bottles, including any dates when the equipment must be removed from service. Currently there are 20 air packs, 40 air bottles with a March 2017 expiration date, and 12 air bottles with a later date. The 40 bottles were purchased along with the air packs in 2002 using a FEMA grant. Beaubien noted that NFPA codes for air packs have been updated three times since ours were purchased. Code also requires there be one air pack (consisting of a pack, two bottles, and face mask) for each seated position in the fire trucks. Twenty air packs is the correct number for Gill based on our number of seated positions.

In the current FEMA grant application, air packs were priced at \$7,152 each, masks at \$754 each, and air bottles at \$1,040 each, for a total of \$8,946 (two air bottles per pack). There will be one more FEMA grant cycle this fall before the Town will need to find funding on its own.

The concept of lease/purchase financing was briefly discussed. Ray will find a related email from earlier this year and forward that to the Selectboard. The Fire Department will proceed with a formal request to the Capital Improvement Planning Committee for an air packs project. A multi-town application for the next FEMA grant will be considered, in hopes of boosting our score and having a successful application.

30 Years of Service: The Selectboard recognized and thanked Ken Sears for having recently completed his 30th year of service to the Town of Gill and its Fire Department. A citation was signed by the Selectboard and presented to Sears.

Beaubien, Sears, and Elliott left the meeting at 6:27 PM.

Minutes: Randy made a motion, seconded by Greg, to approve the minutes of 6/13/16. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Green Community Grant: The window restoration project at the Riverside Building has started. Both windows have been removed and are being restored, and the storm windows have been ordered.

Sewer: Nothing to report.

Gill Elementary Well: Ray reported on a July 8th meeting at the School with Doug Paine and Cathy Wanat from the DEP. At the meeting the Town was informed that the DEP will be requiring installation of a mechanical disinfection system to address ongoing concerns with sporadic positive tests for coliform bacteria. It was noted that *e. coli*, a much more serious type of bacteria, has never been detected in the School's water samples. The DEP will not require any treatment for manganese or arsenic. While both of these naturally occurring elements are present in the water supply, they are at levels which are roughly one half of the DEP's action threshold.

If the Town decides to only do a disinfection system, it must be operational before the School opens this fall. If the Town decides to combine disinfection with removal of iron and manganese (to improve the aesthetic qualities of taste and odor), then a longer timeline can be negotiated with the DEP.

The Selectboard decided to inform the DEP that the Town will move forward with a combination treatment system. It is expected that an ion exchange system (aka water softener) will be used to remove iron and manganese, and ultraviolet light will be used for bacterial disinfection. The timeline should be as fast as we can get it done.

Funding for the system was discussed, with a withdrawal from the Stabilization Fund or a debt exclusion as the two most likely options.

Mariamante/Community Solar: Nothing to report.

Annual Reports: Nothing to report.

Mass Broadband Institute – Last Mile Readiness: The Selectboard signed a letter to Peter Larkin, Board Chair of the Massachusetts Broadband Institute requesting a meeting with MBI officials to discuss receiving assistance with last-mile buildout for cable and broadband. Presently at 85% served, the recently signed Comcast license will bring

Gill up to 95% served once the buildout is complete. MBI's goal is to have all towns at 96% or higher, so there is a possibility that a few more homes can be served with assistance from MBI.

Date for Debt Exclusion for Police Cruiser: The Selectboard set September 8, 2016 as the date for the debt exclusion referendum for the purchase of a new police cruiser. The date coincides with the Massachusetts State Primary Election. Ray will notify the Town Clerk and draft the election warrant and debt exclusion ballot question.

META Grant Application: The Selectboard reviewed and approved an application for a Municipal Energy Technical Assistance Grant from the DOER which was submitted on June 30th. If the grant is received, it will provide \$12,500 to the Town to hire a consultant who will appraise the heating requirements for the Town Hall, design and size a ground source heat pump system to meet those requirements, identify equipment appropriate for the system, prepare bid specs that will form the basis of a request for proposals to install the system, and prepare a bid proposal analysis and award recommendation. Greg, who helped work on the application, thanked Claire Chang and Tupper Brown for their work on the application.

Environmental Massachusetts Letter: The Selectboard reviewed a sample letter from Environment Massachusetts to "Massachusetts' leaders" calling for their help to "repower Massachusetts with 100% clean energy." Greg made a motion, seconded by Randy, to authorize John as Chair to sign on behalf of the Selectboard. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative, and the letter was signed.

House Bill 4461, Section 44: The Selectboard reviewed a letter to the Senate Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets from various public health and environmental organizations. The letter requests the Committee to strike a sentence from section 44 of the proposed text of House Bill 4461. The sentence would require the Mass DEP to review and approve local ordinances and regulations before they could be applied to starter home zoning districts. There is a concern that by removing local standards from starter home districts it could discourage communities from establishing such districts and "would potentially impact environmental justice." Randy made a motion, seconded by Greg, to support the letter to the Committee. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative. Ray will notify the Committee by email of the Selectboard's action.

Sewer Abatement: The Selectboard reviewed a sewer abatement application from Jeff Suprenant for metered water used to water lawns and flowers. Ray explained that both uses are specifically excluded in the Sewer Regulations from receiving abatement. Greg made a motion, seconded by Randy, to grant the abatement. The vote was 0 in favor, 2 opposed, with Randy abstaining from the vote. Ray will send a letter to Suprenant explaining the reason for the denial.

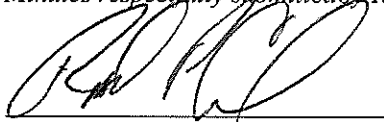
Battlefield Mapping Grant, Phase II: the American Battlefield Protection Program has been awarded a second year of funding for the *1676 Battle of Great Falls Identification and Evaluation* project.

Kent Alexander and Janet Masucci left the meeting at 7:13 PM.

Warrant: The Selectboard reviewed and signed the FY 2016 warrant #28 and FY 2017 warrant #1.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.

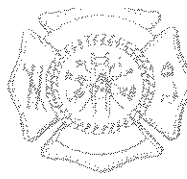


Randy Crochier, Selectboard Clerk

Selectboard Annual Appointments - effective July 1, 2016

to be voted June 27, 2016

First Name	Last Name	Job Title	Company	Address 1	City	State	Postal Code	Length of Term	Term Expires
Melinda	Shearer	Gill Police Matron		Gill Police Department	Gill	MA	01354	one month	July 31, 2016
Robert	Hunter	Gill Police Officer		Gill Police Department	Gill	MA	01354	one month	July 31, 2016
Todd	Mongeon	Gill Police Officer		Gill Police Department	Gill	MA	01354	one month	July 31, 2016
Nikol	Schreiber	Gill Police Officer		Gill Police Department	Gill	MA	01354	one month	July 31, 2016
Brian	Ravish	Gill Police Officer		Gill Police Department	Gill	MA	01354	one month	July 31, 2016
Jason	Bassett	Gill Police Officer		Gill Police Department	Gill	MA	01354	one month	July 31, 2016
Scott	Minckler	Gill Police Officer		Gill Police Department	Gill	MA	01354	one month	July 31, 2016
Tim	Currier	Gill Police Officer		Gill Police Department	Gill	MA	01354	one month	July 31, 2016
William	Kimball	Gill Police Officer		Gill Police Department	Gill	MA	01354	one month	July 31, 2016
Christopher	Savinski	Gill Police Officer		Gill Police Department	Gill	MA	01354	one month	July 31, 2016



Gill Fire Department

196A MAIN ROAD • GILL, MA 01354 • (413) 863-8955 • FAX: (413) 863-0126

Memorandum

To: Gill Selectboard
From: Chief Gene Beaubien
Date: July 6, 2016
Re: PO's for Annual Expenses FY-17

Per my conversation with Ray, I am submitting a list of annual expenses that go over the \$500.00 Purchase Order limit. Instead of submitting individual PO's I am submitting one list.

Franklin Regional Council of Governments	\$1691.69
County radio maintenance contract	
NFPA	\$1305.00
Annual Code update	
High Pressure Systems	\$700.00
Annual service on SCBA refill compressor	
ACS Software Systems	\$675.00
Software for state mandated reporting	
Raymond's Repair	\$700.00/ vehicle
Annual Truck Service	

KME New York Pump Testing and Pump Servicing	\$3,000.00 for 3 trucks
KME New York Ladder Testing	\$1,500.00
Firematic Supply Annual Air Pack Testing	\$1,500.00
IPS Annual Jaws testing	\$750.00
Firematic Supply 2 sets of turn out gear	\$4,500.00

Kyle R. Kendall
PO Box 50
Northfield, MA 01360

Gene M. Beaubien
Fire Chief
196A Main Road
Gill, MA 01354

July 11th, 2016

Dear Chief Beaubien,

It is with sadness that I must tender my resignation from the Gill Fire Department effective July 11th, 2016. I have been working towards my Nursing degree and will be going to college full-time when I return from my deployment.

I want to say that it has been an honor working for the department with the other courageous individuals who make up the Gill Fire Department. I have never known a finer group of people and count it as an honor to have worked alongside them to protect the residents of Gill.

I greatly appreciate all of the training I received through the department and feel privileged to have learned from experienced people. In addition, I enjoyed tremendously the educational events in which I participated and helped teach young people in the public school system fire prevention techniques.

Thank you for allowing me to enrich my life through working for the Town of Gill. Please accept this letter of resignation and my gratitude for a memorable life experience.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kyle R. Kendall

CC: Board of Selectmen

Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

From: Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard <administrator@gillmass.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 12, 2016 3:21 PM
To: 'Greg Snedeker (gksnedeker@gmail.com)'; 'John R Ward (johnrward.ward54@gmail.com)'; 'Randy Crochier (hxydad77@yahoo.com)'
Cc: Gene & Dorri Beaubien
Subject: FW: Equipment Lease Purchase Financing - Municipality
Attachments: Company Profile.doc; Municipal Lease Benefits.doc

Here's the info about equipment leasing that was mentioned at last night's meeting.

The email mentions "non-appropriations language" that's part of the municipal lease. It's not a term I've encountered before.

And here's the link to the FEMA grant website. Plenty of cities and towns in Massachusetts with awards this month, and it's hard to understand how some of them have greater need than us.

<https://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program>

Ray

From: VINCE BARAUSKAS [mailto:vince@merrimaccapitalservices.com]
Sent: Friday, March 18, 2016 1:26 PM
To: firedept@gillmass.org
Cc: administrator@gillmass.org
Subject: Equipment Lease Purchase Financing - Municipality

Gene,

It was nice chatting with you and thank you for your interest in a Lease Purchase arrangement in order to acquire the equipment supplied by *Scott Garland* and *Firematic*. For your information, Merrimac Capital Services is a professional finance company that has over 35 years experience in the finance industry. It's our goal to lease the equipment that will make you and your Department stay in compliance and up to date. Look us up on the web at www.merrimaccapitalservices.com.

In 2013, 80% of all US Companies used financing to acquire more than \$521 billion of capital equipment (and that doesn't account for the Municipalities and Federal Government that also use leasing or financing to acquire equipment). A lease or financing contract typically can be arranged on equipment from 24 to 60 months.

For your information, Lease Purchase terms can be arranged:

MONTHLY

QUARTERLY

SEMI ANNUALLY

ANNUALLY

STRUCTURED PAYMENTS

The Municipal Lease Purchase Agreement has the Non-appropriations language as part of the Contract with automatic ownership upon successful completion of all the payments

By allowing Merrimac Capital Services and its partners to arrange a Lease Purchase agreement for fabric covered buildings, turnout gear, breathing apparatuses, vehicles, etc. (*new or used, titled or untitled equipment*), you won't need to expend that much needed capital on equipment which depreciates, in some cases becomes obsolete and may be replaced. Also, the payments are fixed for the term of the contract which is a '*hedge against inflation*'.

All that you would to do to begin the credit review process is **FAX** the Completed Application to my attention at 1-866-583-6340 *or Email* it to me at vince@merrimaccapitalservices.com. (In some cases, depending upon the equipment cost, the Town's financial statements will be required)

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 781-933-1381 if you have any questions. Thank you and I look forward to discuss Lease Purchase financing for this project.



VINCE BARAUSKAS

MERRIMAC CAPITAL SERVICES

11 Liana St. Woburn, MA 01801

ph # 781-933-1381 fax # 1-866-583-6340

vince@merrimaccapitalservices.com

www.merrimaccapitalservices.com

*"financing for New, Used, Titled or Untitled Equipment
for Commercial, Non-Profit, Municipalities or Fed. entities"*

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MERRIMAC CAPITAL SERVICES

www.merrimaccapitalservices.com

11 Liana Street * Woburn, MA 01801

ph #: 781-933-1381 * E-mail: info@merrimaccapitalservices.com * fax #: 1-866-583-6340

Merrimac Capital Services, located outside of Boston, MA, is an independent finance company whose principals have more than 30+ years' experience in the finance industry. We specialize in facilitating and originating leasing and financing programs for a wide variety of customers.

Our clients are both public entities and private companies in need of equipment leasing & financing, Tax Exempt Bond Financing, blemished credit financing, project financing, credit facilities, working capital lines of credit, etc. They range from the Fortune 100, Municipalities, Non-Profits, Federal Government and American Tribes to privately held companies, representing a wide array of industries in every state in the US and Canada (and in selected countries).

Some of the programs that we offer are:

- Equipment leasing and financing transactions (International from \$200K up)
 - a. Leasing Agreements & Financing programs, app only or structured
 - b. ***New, used, titled and non-titled equipment***
 - c. Lease transactions as low as \$5,000 with ***no ceiling***
- Tax Exempt Bond Financing for Municipalities, 501(c)3 non-profit organizations
 - a. Providing financing for capital projects, i.e. buildings, stadiums, dorms, etc.
 - b. Refinancing of existing debt
- Municipal Leasing (Non-Profit, Federal & Am. Tribal programs are also available)
 - a. Lease transactions as low as \$5,000 (with NO ceiling)
 - b. Various payment programs; monthly, quarterly, semi-annual & annual
 - c. Non-Appropriations Clause (Muni)/Waiver of Sovereignty (Tribes)
- Asset-Based Lending (financing the growth of a company by using a company's current assets to collateralize the transaction), Credit Facilities
 - a. Establish "lines of credit" utilizing accounts receivable and inventories
 - b. Working Capital loans (short term or long term) for as low as \$10,000
- Medium and Large Ticket Lending, Project Financing
 - a. Medium size transactions that don't meet conventional guidelines
 - b. Large projects (no ceiling) that require unique structure or a financial blend
 - c. Project Financing of equipment & services

These programs are a representation of what we offer. Contact Vince Barauskas at 781-933-1381 about your specific financing needs.

Merrimac Capital Services

www.merrimaccapitalservices.com

11 Liana Street * Woburn, MA 01801
ph: 781-933-1381 * fax: 1-866-583-6340

E-mail: vince@merrimaccapitalservices.com

"don't forget to ask about our Municipal Rental program"

Benefits of a Lease Purchase for the Municipality!

The following are just some of the reasons why a Municipality would consider a lease purchase arrangement for capital equipment through Merrimac Capital Services.

100% Financing - Leasing offers the Municipality the ability to finance 100% of the equipment with no large deposits required. Transactions as low as \$5,000 with no ceiling. *New, used, titled or untitled equipment.*

No Voter Referendum - Because we are writing a finance lease versus an installment contract, a Voter Referendum may not be required.

Non-Appropriation Clause - Our municipal lease documents contain the standard Non-Appropriation verbiage.

Obtain the equipment NOW! - Often a lease payment can be negotiated to fit within the current operating budget when a capital expenditure is out of the question. Why deprive the department of that much-needed equipment when they can get it all NOW at today's pricing, not tomorrow's inflated price.

Application Process - Typically, transactions up to \$50K can be accomplished with just a simple 1 page Credit Application. Since many Municipalities reflect their annual reports on their web page, even larger transactions can be easily accomplished.

Payment Programs - Terms can be **monthly, quarterly, semi-annual or annual**. Other programs such as, seasonal payments, smaller payments up-front or payments conforming to the present budget situation can be explored. Payment terms typically range from 24 months to 60 months (longer terms are available, where applicable)

Simplifies Budgeting - Financial projections are simple because the lease payments are *fixed* for the term of the lease. Lease payments don't float with the rising cost of money.

Preserves Cash - A Lease will let the Municipality/Public Institution acquire and make use of the equipment *NOW* without depleting their cash reserves. By taking advantage of our leasing program, it allows the Municipality to preserve their bank lines, utilize another source of credit and utilize their bonding power for projects such as School buildings, parks and utilities, roofs, renovations, etc.

For additional information regarding our Municipal Lease Purchase, please do not hesitate to contact Vince Barauskas at 781-933-1381.

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Be It Known that the Gill Select Board hereby
Extends its Congratulations to

KENNETH P. SEARS

It is with great pleasure that the Select Board present this citation to you in recognition of your Thirty Years of Exemplary Service as a member of the Gill Fire Department and your many valuable contributions to Fire Services in our Town.

In recognition thereof we have signed our names officially and caused the seal of the Town of Gill to be affixed this eleventh day of July in the year Two Thousand and Sixteen.

Attest:

Lynda Hodsdon Mayo, Town Clerk

John R. Ward, Chair

Gregory M. Snedeker

Randy P. Crochier

Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

From: Paine, Douglas (DEP) <douglas.paine@state.ma.us>
Sent: Friday, July 08, 2016 2:12 PM
To: Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard
Subject: 7/8 Meeting Summary

Following is a summary of the 7/8/16 meeting at the Gill Elementary School during which MassDEP representatives discussed ongoing water quality issues with the School's Public Water System.

MassDEP identified three water quality concerns with the School's water system:

Coliform Bacteria: During September 2014, November 2014, and April 2015 the School's water system violated the maximum contaminant level for Total Coliform Bacteria. In accordance with a February 9, 2015 Administrative Consent Order (ACO-WE-14-5D032) and an August 28, 2015 Notice of Noncompliance (NON-WE-15-5D044-CSA), the School is required to install and permit a mechanical disinfection system. Because of the developing manganese issue within the School's water system in 2014 and 2015, and the possibility for the installation of a manganese removal treatment system, MassDEP allowed the School to temporarily forgo the installation of a mechanical disinfection system, and hand chlorinate the well while it made decisions regarding manganese treatment. Although hand chlorination appears to have been effective in eliminating further detections of total coliform, chlorine residuals have widely fluctuated, with no residual frequently measured within the School. Further, hand chlorinating the well may be masking more severe bacteriological contamination (E. coli). **MassDEP will therefore require that the School move forward now with the installation of mechanical disinfection system in accordance with the requirements of the ACO. That installation must occur prior to the start of the 2016/17 School year, with the required permit to be submitted following the systems installation. Should the school intend to install a filtration unit, or ion exchange unit in conjunction with the installation of disinfection equipment, DEP will consider establishing an enforceable schedule through an amendment to the 2/9/15 ACO.**

- Raw water quality appears to negate the use of a UV disinfection system alone, without the use of a pre-filter or ion exchange (or both). This should be confirmed by a design engineer or a system manufacturer.
- Disinfection using sodium hypochlorite may precipitate both manganese and iron out of solution, worsening the existing problem with these contaminants. This may already be occurring with the application of chlorine at the wellhead.
- UV disinfection is not an effective treatment when E. coli is present.
- True raw water samples for the parameters listed in the Wright Peirce report should be collected by temporarily discontinuing hand chlorination, flushing the system until no chlorine residual is detected, followed by sample collection. Hand chlorination should then resume.

Manganese: Quarterly sampling for manganese has consistently demonstrated the School's raw water has levels in excess of 0.3 mg/l. Long term exposure to drinking water with manganese levels greater than 0.3 mg/l, but less than 1.0 mg/l may have adverse health effects on young children. **Although MassDEP will not now require the installation of treatment for manganese, it advises that the Town move forward with treatment installation.** Green sand filtration or ion exchange have been found to be the most effective treatment systems for iron and manganese removal. Both would require the installation of a dry well for waste discharge.

Arsenic: The School's well has historically tested at a level greater than ½ the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for arsenic, resulting in a requirement for quarterly testing. A second quarter 2016 sample was in excess of the arsenic

MCL, although a confirmation sample tested below the MCL. **MassDEP will not require the installation for arsenic removal treatment** unless the average of four consecutive quarterly samples average above the arsenic MCL.

By Friday July 15, MassDEP requires that the Town provide notice that it intends to install a mechanical disinfection system by the start of the 2016/17 school year, or that it intends to install a disinfection system in conjunction with a manganese removal system, and that it is requesting an amendment to the 2/9/15 ACO to establish a schedule for this work.

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TOWN OF GILL

MASSACHUSETTS



www.gillmass.org

July 11, 2016

Mr. Peter Larkin, Board Chair
Massachusetts Broadband Institute
75 North Drive
Westborough, MA 01581

Dear Mr. Larkin:

Bill Ennen recommended that we contact you to request a meeting in late August or early September to discuss the possibility of Gill receiving help from the Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) with our last mile cable build-out.

Although our newest franchise agreement with Comcast, signed in June, was successful in building out a substantial area of the Town that is unserved, we still have a ways to go. With this future build-out, the Town will be at 95% served within the next three years. We would like to be above the 96% goal set by the MBI and would appreciate the MBI's expertise and resources in helping our efforts.

We understand this is a busy time for the MBI, but we hope things may have settled down in a couple of months. Please let us know possible meeting times at your earliest convenience. If you would like to come to one of our regular public meetings, the Selectboard meets every other Monday at 5:30 PM with our next meeting happening on July 25.

Sincerely,

Gill Selectboard

John R. Ward, Chair

Randy P. Crochier

Gregory M. Snedeker

Cc: Tom Hodak, Chair, Gill Cable Committee

7/7/2016

Category
 Vacant & N/A
 Served (Existing)
 Served by New License
 Unserved by New License
 Total
 % Served

Parcel
 Count
 304
 506
 57
 29
 896

Before New Comcast License		After Buildout Per New Comcast License	
# Premises	# Units	# Premises	# Units
518	572	576	630
58	58		
29	30	29	30
605	660	605	660
85.6%	86.7%	95.21%	95.5%

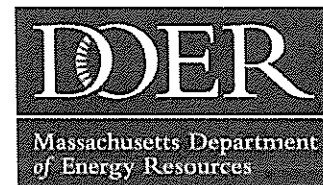
581 to get Premises above 96%
 634 to get Units above 96%

Total Parcels should be 896 to match Assessors' data.



Municipal Energy Technical Assistance Grants:

June 2016
PON-ENE-2016-020



GRANT APPLICATION

BACKGROUND

- Municipal Energy Technical Assistance Grants (Grants) are those Grants that provide funding to independent third parties to aid municipalities, regional school districts, municipal lighting plants, or water/wastewater districts in the study, negotiation, development and/or management of clean energy projects.
- These Grants are offered on an annual basis, provided that funding is made available. The amount of available funding for future grant rounds may vary. The cumulative total of actual awards depends upon the number of applications received, their eligibility and the funding allocation available for this Grant program.
- An applicant may receive a Grant of up to \$12,500 for Municipal Energy Technical Assistance (META), except for the zero net energy and zero net-ready assessments, where the maximum allowable Grant amount is \$5,000. Zero net energy and zero net-ready integrated design services are eligible for the maximum Grant in the amount of \$12,500. As used herein, circuit rider services are those regional planning authorities and technical assistance agencies utilized for municipal energy coordination. Municipal energy coordination has a maximum Grant amount of \$7,500 to provide assistance in becoming a Green Community and a maximum Grant amount of \$5,000 to provide assistance to existing Green Communities.
- An initial disbursement will be conditioned on the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) receiving a signed contract between the Grantee and its selected third party technical assistance consultant. Remaining disbursements will be based on the receipt of vendor invoices provided to the Grantee detailing vendor services, tasks completed and charged.
- The DOER will contract directly with regional planning authorities and other technical assistance agencies for municipal energy coordination.

ELIGIBILITY

- The DOER's Green Communities Division is making available, Grants for META to **ALL** 351 Massachusetts municipalities, regardless of Green Community designation status, **PLUS** all regional school districts, regional planning agencies, water/wastewater districts and municipal lighting plants.
- Previous Green Communities Division Technical Assistance Grant¹ recipients must have **completed all aspects of their previous grants, including all reporting, in order to apply for this current META opportunity.**
- Applicants may apply for META Grants that meet the eligibility requirements specified in the application for the following projects types:

¹ This includes both Owner's Agent Technical Assistance (OATA) grants last offered in 2014 and META grants offered beginning in 2015.

- Municipal solar photovoltaic “PV” systems no less than 15 kW in size, on property owned by a municipality
- Net metering agreements for projects no less than 15 kW in size on property not owned by the applicant
- Assessment or development of community shared solar (CSS)
- Energy management services, i.e. energy savings performance contracts
- Evaluation of potential microgrid systems
- Audits of oil, propane or electrically heated buildings only (Natural gas heated buildings can be audited by the servicing utility)
- Energy efficiency technical assessments of processes at public water supply and wastewater treatment facilities
- Pump system optimization studies at public drinking water and wastewater treatment facilities
- Assessments or feasibility studies for proposed new public buildings to be zero-net energy or zero-net ready buildings (ZNEB)
- Engineering studies and/or bid specifications to convert to more efficient heating systems (e.g. conversion from steam to hot water; NOT simply replacing an inefficient boiler), or conversion to renewable or alternative fuel-sourced heating system, including water or wastewater source heat pumps
- Assessment of potential energy efficiency measures for new building construction design
- Wastewater temperature monitoring for one year at sites located near public facilities to determine potential for wastewater energy recovery
- Consultant support to apply International Performance Measurement & Verification Protocol (IPMVP) to Green Community energy usage data for communities with the following circumstances:
 - Newly functioning ventilation
 - Significant changes in operating hours
- Municipal energy coordination activities (circuit rider services.) Support from Regional Planning Authorities, or other Technical Assistance Agencies for the following municipal energy coordination activities:
 - Prepare to become a Green Community: (Max \$7,500 per town for this group of activities up to 100 hours)
 - Criterion #1 – Review existing by-laws and assist in developing new by-law if needed
 - Criterion #3 – For Baseline creation: Set up, review and enter data into MassEnergyInsight
 - Criterion #3 – For 5 year Energy Reduction Plan: help arrange audits, prepare plan
 - Criterion #4 – Drafting of Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy and/or Vehicle Inventory
 - Consolidate documents in preparation for submitting designation application
 - For Existing Green Communities: (max \$5,000 per town for this group of activities)
 - Assist with grant application preparation
 - Assist with procurement activities for approved grant funded projects

- Assist with Annual Report preparation

APPLICATIONS & AWARDS

Applications may be submitted commencing at 9 AM June 23, 2016 and closing at 5 PM July 6, 2016. Any applications received prior to or after the above dates and times will be rejected.

- Applications must contain, at a minimum, the information requested in the application. The DOER will communicate to an applicant if an application is incomplete and provide the applicant the option of providing additional information. If the applicant chooses not to provide additional information; then DOER will reject the application as incomplete.
- **Applications will be reviewed and awards made based on the order in which complete applications are received until all available funds are disbursed. Applicants will be notified of one of the following:**
 - An application is complete and all required information has been provided.
 - All funding for this grant opportunity has been awarded and the application is therefore not eligible for review.
- **NOTE:** In order to be deemed complete, an application **MUST** contain the required signature in Attachment B (Certification of Application), the attachments *with* the required information requested under Eligibility Requirements below as applicable and all information requested in Attachment A (Project Summary).

ASKING QUESTIONS

- Instructions how to find this application(PON-2016-ENE-020) are available on COMMBUYS (as a "Bid") at Grants and Contracts.
- All questions must be submitted by 5 PM on June 21, 2016, to COMMBUYS.
- To find an item on COMMBUYS: log into COMMBUYS, locate the Bid, acknowledge receipt of the Bid, and scroll down to the bottom of the Bid Header page. The "Bid Q&A" button allows Bidders access to the Bid Q&A page.
- To submit an application, see the Instructions on page 13.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Municipality/Regional School District/Water or Wastewater District/Regional Planning Agency/Municipal Lighting Plant (in MA)/Regional Planning Authority/other Technical Assistance Agency	Street Address 325 Main Road Gill, MA
City/Town Gill	Zip code 01354
CEO Name John Ward	CEO Title Chair, Selectboard
Grant Point of Contact Ray Purington	Title Administrative Assistant
Telephone 413-863-9347	Email administrator@gillmass.org

MUNICIPAL ENERGY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECT TYPE (please check the appropriate box):

- ☐ Municipal Solar PV systems no less than 15 kW in size on property owned by a municipality;
- ☐ Net metering agreements for projects no less than 15 kW in size on property not owned by the applicant
- ☐ Community Shared Solar (CSS)
- ☐ An assessment to explore a community shared solar system on private or public property
- ☐ Development of a community shared solar system on private or public property
- ☐ Energy Savings Performance Contract
- ☐ Evaluation of potential microgrid systems
- ☐ Audit of Oil, Propane or Electric Heated Building² (Must meet ASHRAE³ Level 2 or equivalent standard)
- ☐ Zero Net Energy or Zero Net-Ready Building (ZNEB) evaluations
- ☐ An assessment for the municipality to consider a ZNEB for the construction of a new municipal building. Typically this would include the hiring of a facilitator to work with the building committee and conduct a charrette with some technical experts
- ☐ A feasibility study for a ZNEB to be included in an already planned feasibility study for a new municipal building
- ☐ Integrated design services to ensure ZNEB measures remain a primary consideration throughout the planning, design, engineering and construction phases of new construction
- ☐ Energy Efficiency Technical Assessments of Processes at Public Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment Facilities

X Heating System Conversion Engineering Study and/or Bid Specifications

- ☐ Conversion of heating system type – boiler or furnace along with controls and distribution system – to a more efficient type (e.g. steam to hot water, or combined heat and power)
- ☐ Conversion to clean burning efficient biomass or wood pellet or chips fueled heating system
- ☐ Conversion to high-efficiency heat pump system (air, water or ground sourced)
- ☐ Addition of a solar water collector to supplement domestic hot water and/or space heating (either stand-alone or in combination with one of the above heating systems)

X Conversion to water or wastewater source heat pumps

NOTE: The DOER has a separate solicitation for funding the design and installation of wastewater energy recovery systems outside of a wastewater treatment facility. Information on this solicitation can be found [here](#).

- ☐ Assessment of potential energy efficiency measures for new building construction design

² See circular figure at the bottom of this webpage: <http://www.ashrae.org/resources--publications/bookstore/procedures-for-commercial-building-energy-audits> to better understand ASHRAE Energy Audit Levels.

³ American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers

- ☐ Consultant support to apply International Performance Measurement & Verification Protocol (IPMVP) to Green Community energy usage data for communities with the following circumstances:
- ☐ Newly functioning ventilation
 - ☐ Significant changes in operating hours
- ☐ Support from Regional Planning Authorities or other Technical Assistance Agencies for municipal energy coordination activities

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All applications must meet the following requirements to be eligible for META. All required documentation must be provided to confirm eligibility.

- ☐ For Municipal Solar PV projects, a site assessment must be provided. Please **attach a feasibility study or site assessment for the site**. A study or assessment must, at a minimum, include the following:
- Roof-mounted systems
 - o Evidence that the roof has a 20-year life span,
 - o Visuals that demonstrate limited HVAC equipment on the roof and no trees that could cause shading,
 - o Visuals that demonstrate the roof is either flat or south facing.
 - o **NOTE:** META services may be used to confirm a roof is structurally sound to support the additional load of a solar PV system
 - Ground-mounted systems
 - o Visuals that demonstrate there is no shading (buildings, structures, trees). Noting that trees will be removed is not acceptable and such proposals will be ineligible for META. (Please note that the DOER's Ground Mounted Solar PV Guide discourages installation of ground-mounted solar in "locations that require significant tree cutting, because of the important water management, cooling and climate benefits trees have.")
 - o Visuals that demonstrate there are utility lines nearby. Please mark utility lines clearly on your documents.
 - o Visuals that demonstrate the site is either flat, or if sloping, that the system will face south.
- ☐ For Net Metering Agreements on property not owned by the applicant, please attach:
- o Price quotes and scope from the proposed consultant
 - o Whether targeted sites are known at this time. If so, please also attach:
 - o Feasibility study or site assessment for targeted sites
 - o All documentation required above for Municipal Solar PV projects, except that visuals demonstrating that utility lines are nearby are not required
- ☐ For Community Shared Solar (CSS) Assessment projects, please attach:
- o Letters of expression of interest from at least five utility customers in the community
 - o A letter from a solar industry representative familiar with CSS documenting a conversation it has had with the community.

☐ For Community Shared Solar (CSS) Development projects on private or public property, please attach:

- Site assessment. (Google earth maps or <http://maps.nrel.gov/imby> are resources for site assessment information.)
 - Outline of the business/ownership model
 - Assessment of community interest.
 - Letters of commitment from at least five CSS participants
 - A feasibility study or site assessment for the identified site. The study or assessment must, at a minimum, include the information required for a Municipal Solar PV system noted above.
- See Community Shared Solar: Review and Recommendations for Massachusetts Models
 - See Community Shared Solar: Implementation Guidelines for Massachusetts Communities

☐ For Energy Savings Performance Contracts, a solicitation for an Energy Services Company (ESCO) must have been issued for each affected municipality and/or public entity, and solicitations must be filed with the DOER per M.G.L. ch.25A. **For each affected municipality or public entity, please specify the date the procurement was issued for selection of the ESCO vendor:**

For each affected municipality or public entity, please specify the date of acknowledgement of receipt from DOER of the "Notice of EMS Procurement" per M.G.L ch. 25A:

☐ For Evaluation of potential microgrid systems, please attach:

- Price quotes and scope from the proposed consultant
- Whether or not targeted sites are known at this time. If so, please describe.

☐ For an Audit of Oil, Propane or Electric Heated Building⁴ (must meet ASHRAE⁵ Level 2 or equivalent standard), please attach:

- A copy of a MassSave audit completed within the last three years, or proof that an audit is scheduled within the next six months of this grant application, or
- Proof those efficiency improvements have been completed within the last five years. Please describe the project in Attachment A and attach all related invoices.

NOTE: These requirements are not necessary for applicants served by municipal light plants.

☐ For a Zero Net Energy or Zero Net-Ready Building Assessment, please attach:

- Documentation that the appropriate governing body (e.g. board of selectman, town council, mayor, school committee), has formed a building committee to consider a new building.
- A copy of certified meeting minutes for this governing body.

⁴ See circular figure at the bottom of this webpage: <http://www.ashrae.org/resources--publications/bookstore/procedures-for-commercial-building-energy-audits> to better understand ASHRAE Energy Audit Levels.

⁵ American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers

☐ For a Zero Net Energy or Zero Net-Ready Building Feasibility Study, please attach:

- Documentation that the governing body (e.g. board of selectman, town council, mayor, school committee), has authorized appropriated funds for a feasibility study for a new building.
- A copy of certified meeting minutes for this authorization.

☐ For a Zero Net Energy or Zero Net-Ready Building Integrated Design Services, please attach:

- Documentation that the governing body (e.g. board of selectman, town council, mayor, school committee), has authorized appropriated funds for design, engineering and/or construction of a new building.
- A copy of certified meeting minutes for this authorization.

☐ For Energy Efficiency Technical Assessments of Processes at Public Water Supply and Wastewater Treatment Facilities

- Energy efficiency technical assessments MUST conduct an in-depth study for one or more major treatment processes or pieces of equipment. Studies may not focus on typical building energy efficiency measures, such as lighting and heating.

META grant funds can be used for up to 50% of assessment for facilities served by utility efficiency programs. Applicants must commit to working with their existing utility efficiency programs if funded with an META grant.

X For Heating System Conversion Engineering Study and/or Bid Specifications, the building must have at least one of the following:

- An audit that confirms the building is properly weatherized and insulated, i.e., measures to address the building envelope were not recommended in the audit due to the building being well-sealed. **Please attach a copy of this building audit.**
- Documentation that the building has been properly weatherized and insulated within the last five years; this can include invoices for air sealing and insulation. **Please attach a copy of this documentation.**
- An audit stating that the building cannot be further insulated without major renovation. For example, brick or masonry buildings cannot add wall insulation without major renovations to add insulation on the interior wall of every room. Attic spaces in these buildings, however, often can be insulated without major renovation and documentation must be shown that these spaces have been weatherized and insulated. **Please attach a copy of this audit.**

NOTE: For conversion to water or wastewater source heat pumps, proof of a prior audit or weatherization is not required, but weatherization must be included in the scope of the study as a separate measure, as well as the impact of its implementation on the sizing and design of the water/wastewater source heat pumps.

☐ For Assessment of Potential Energy Efficiency Measures for New Building Construction Design

- Applicants must commit to working with their existing utility efficiency programs if funded with an META grant.

☐ For Consultant support to apply International Performance Measurement & Verification Protocol (IPMVP) to Green Community energy usage data for communities

- Applicants must be a Green Community with significant changes in building operating hours and/or significant renovations that resulted in greater energy use intensity. **Please include in Project Summary (Attachment A): identifying which building(s) the IPMVP is sought, and what alterations have been made since the community's baseline year.**



For Support from Regional Planning Authorities, or other Technical Assistance Agencies for the following municipal energy coordination activities, please attach:

- A Memorandum of Understanding signed by the CEO of the municipality and by the entity providing services for each municipality to receive support services. (See Attachment B for definition of Chief Executive Officer (CEO))
- The Memorandum of Understanding must include: 1) the services to be provided and estimated costs (see earlier list of "municipal energy coordination activities"); 2) why support from a RPA or other technical assistance agency is necessary.
- **Attachment A: Project Summary**

PLEASE ATTACH A DETAILED SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT, LIMITING YOUR RESPONSE TO THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW.

The following must be included in order for the application to be deemed complete. You must address each bullet.

- Estimated annual clean energy benefits (e.g. kWh saved, MMBtu saved, clean energy kWh generated). If META is being provided to identify the clean energy benefits (audits, for example), those benefits must be reported to the DOER following completion of META services, if awarded;
- Steps completed in the project to date (e.g. town approvals);
- Why a third party municipal energy consultant is critical for your entity to implement this project;
- A discussion of the specific tasks you expect the third party municipal energy consultant to perform once services are awarded; and,
- Please note in the summary the amount of grant requested:
 - \$12,500, including for integrated design services for zero net energy or zero net-ready new construction;
 - \$5,000 for a zero net energy or zero net-ready building assessment,
 - \$5,000 for evaluation of potential microgrid systems
 - \$5,000 per municipality for services provided to existing Green Communities
 - \$7,500 per municipality for services provided to becoming a Green Community

ATTACHMENT A

- Gill is seeking this grant in order to obtain a Heating System Conversion Engineering Study and Bid Specifications for a ground source heat pump system for its town hall and to quantify as closely as possible the benefits to be expected from the system. The Town was awarded “Green Community” designation in 2012 and has systematically tracked the benefits during that time on many energy saving and efficiency update projects including mini-split HV installations, window replacements, insulation updates, and LED street light conversions.
- Pursuit of this project, beginning with application for this META grant, has been authorized by the town’s energy committee and was considered by the selectboard as part of an earlier town hall energy review. The proposed engineering study will enable the selectboard to determine the financial viability of moving forward on a ground source heat pump project.
- This engineering study, bid specifications and benefit calculation will form the basis of a Green Communities Competitive Grant application in Spring of 2017 looking toward installation of the system in late 2017 or early 2018.
- The consultant will need to appraise the heating requirements for the town hall building, design and size the ground source heating system to meet those requirements, identify equipment appropriate for the system, prepare bid specifications that will form the basis of a request for proposals to install the system and prepare a bid proposal analysis and award recommendation.
- Gill is seeking a grant of \$12,500 for the engineering study, bid specifications and related consulting work.

INSTRUCTIONS— If you have any problems or questions about the application process, please contact Paul Carey, paul.s.carey@state.ma.us

Getting Started

- Municipalities or other entities submitting an application to the Green Communities Division for the FIRST TIME will need to provide basic information to their Regional Coordinator. Please provide the municipal or entity name, legal address including zip code, and the primary contact name, title, email, and phone number. For municipalities that are Designated Green Communities, provide the name and email of the primary contact who will submit the META grant application to the Regional Coordinator.
- **No paper submission** is required or accepted for the grant application. The process is electronic only.

Application Materials Checklist – ARE YOUR MATERIALS READY?

- ☐ Begin each of your electronic files with your municipal/entity name followed by wording that makes the content of the file clear – this is **REQUIRED**
- ☐ META Grant Application (Word or PDF file)
- ☐ Summary of Project (Attachment A) (Word or PDF file)
- ☐ Signed Certification of Application (Attachment B)(PDF file)
- ☐ Supporting Audits, Studies, MOUs, other documentation.

Please only submit once. If you made a mistake, or forgot something, please contact Paul Carey at paul.s.carey@state.ma.us / 617-626-7372.

META Grant Application Process

1. Email the required documents to Paul.S.Carey@state.ma.us
2. You will receive an email indicating receipt of the documents. Determination of the grant award will not occur at this time.

Get Help

Pre-Grant Application Process - Contact your Regional Coordinator

Application Process and Technical Issues -Contact Paul.S.Carey@state.ma.us / 617-626-7372

ATTACHMENT B

CERTIFICATION OF APPLICATION

The Certification of Application below must be provided as a ***scanned pdf with signature***.

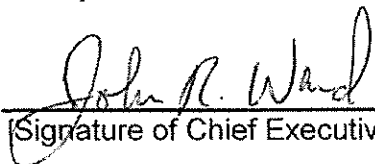
For joint applications, one certification must be submitted for each municipality.

CERTIFICATION OF APPLICATION

The **Chief Executive Officer** must complete this certification.

I, John R. Ward am authorized to execute said Application on behalf of
Town of Gill, the applying municipality, technical assistance
agency, regional school district, municipal light plant or water/wastewater district.

I verify that the information in the Municipal Energy Technical Assistance Grant Application is true.



[Signature of Chief Executive Officer]

Chair, Selectboard

[Title of Chief Executive Officer]

6/29/16

[Date]

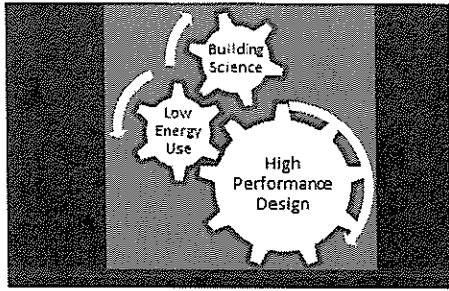
NOTE: THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER IS DEFINED AS THE MANAGER IN ANY CITY HAVING A MANAGER AND IN ANY TOWN HAVING A CITY FORM OF GOVERNMENT, THE MAYOR IN ANY OTHER CITY, AND THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN IN ANY OTHER TOWN UNLESS SOME OTHER OFFICER OR BODY IS DESIGNATED TO PERFORM THE FUNCTIONS OF A CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF A LOCAL CHARTER OR LAWS HAVING THE FORCE OF A CHARTER.

FOR REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICTS, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER IS THE SUPERINTENDENT.

FOR WATER/WASTEWATER DISTRICTS, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER IS THE SUPERINTENDENT.

FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AGENCIES, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER IS THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

FOR MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANTS, THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER IS THE GENERAL MANAGER.



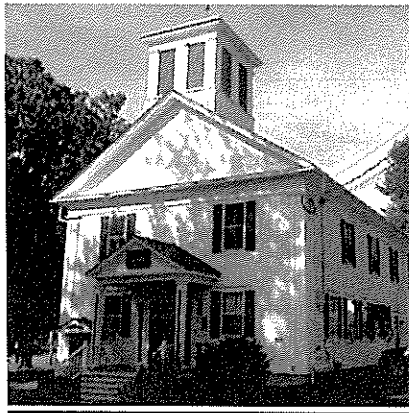
BALES ENERGY ASSOCIATES

Date: April 22, 2014

DRAFT REVISION INCLUDING HEAT PUMP ANALYSIS

ENERGY STUDY FOR GILL TOWN HALL

325 Main Road
Gill, MA 01354



Completed By:

Bales Energy Associates

www.balesenergy.com

50 Miles Street

Greenfield, MA 01301

413-863-5020

Consulting Energy Engineer:

Bart Bales, PE, MSME

bart.bales@balesenergy.com

INVOICE

Bill To:
Ray Purington Town of Gill 325 Main Rd Gill, MA 01354

Invoice #
2429

Date
11/30/2014

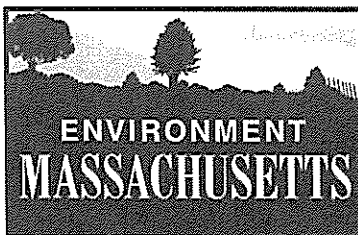
Project ID	Town Hall
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Description	Quantity	Unit \$	Total \$
Attic Floor Plywood	1,836	1.50	2,754.00
Attic Floor Open Blow	1,836	1.69989	3,121.00
Attic Floor Open Blow Adder to R60	1,836	0.44989	826.00
Attic Floor Air Sealing	16	95.00	1,520.00
Attic Soffit Block & Insulate	100	12.50	1,250.00
Attic Rim Propavents [Billing on hold pending soffit venting]	74	0.00	0.00
Attic Hatch	1	465.00	465.00
Door Weatherstrip [Reduced from 6]	2	145.00	290.00
Fiberglass Removal	1,836	1.85022	3,397.00
			0.00

pay \$3,578.96
hold balance until
next 50% of grant
funds are received.
RF

	Total	\$13,623.00
	Customer Payment	50.00
	Balance Due	\$13,623.00

Phone #	Fax #	Web Site	E-mail
(413) 322-3111	(413) 322-3155	EnergiaUS.com	Ivelice@energiaus.com



Dear Massachusetts' leaders,

As local officials, business leaders, academics, and community leaders, we urge you to help repower Massachusetts with 100% clean energy.

Massachusetts is already hurting from the effects of global warming. Record storms and rising sea levels are threatening our communities and our future. A changing and variable climate has tremendous implications for the livability, competitiveness and resilience of communities across the country and here in Massachusetts.

The good news is that the solutions are at hand. Solar can provide twice as much electricity as we use each year, and offshore wind can produce more than 11 times our annual electricity use. New technologies in energy efficiency and heating and cooling can dramatically reduce energy usage in homes and businesses. And electric vehicles and other green transportation options will help us get where we need to go without using fossil fuels.

We have already made significant progress. Massachusetts was among the first states in the nation to limit carbon pollution from power plants, adopt ambitious fuel efficiency standards for cars, and foster clean energy development. As a result, our global warming emissions are down while the state's clean energy sector is booming.

But we are still not doing enough to reduce our carbon pollution. And as officials in other states and on the national level consider what to do about global warming, Massachusetts must continue to lead the way.

We need to transform the way we power our society — and we need to do it fast. That's why we are calling for swift action to fight global warming.

We urge you to pledge your support to repower Massachusetts with 100% clean and renewable energy, and do everything you can to bring us closer to that goal.

The time to act on global warming is now. Please do everything in your power to help achieve 100% clean energy in Massachusetts.

Sincerely,

NAME:

John R. Ward

TITLE:

Selectboard Chair

CITY/TOWN:

Gill, MA 01354

EMAIL:

administrator@gillmass.org

PHONE:

413-863-9347

Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

From: Claire Chang <claire@solarstoreofgreenfield.com>
Sent: Monday, June 27, 2016 10:45 AM
To: Gill Selectboard Office; Randy Crochier; Greg Snedeker; John Ward; Allen Tupper Brown; Janet Masucci; Alden Booth; Andy Cole; Vicky Jenkins
Subject: Fwd: Letter Supporting 100% Renewable Energy
Attachments: 100% renewables sign-on.doc; _Certification_.htm

FYI,

have not read the ltr yet.

we'll have to discuss at next mtg. SB as well.

Claire Chang
Solar Store of Greenfield
2 Fiske Ave
Greenfield, MA 01301
413-772-3122
claire@solarstoreofgreenfield.com

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Letter Supporting 100% Renewable Energy
Date: Mon, 27 Jun 2016 10:24:32 -0400
From: Zara Jamshed <zjamshed@environmentmassachusetts.org>
To: claire@solarstoreofgreenfield.com

Hi Ms. Chang,

Thank you for getting back to me and for completing the Municipal Clean Energy survey. I will keep you updated as our research moves forward, and I'll be sure to share a copy of the final report with you when we release it in late July.

As part of our campaign, we are also asking local officials to sign a letter in support of 100% renewable energy for Massachusetts. Though communities around Massachusetts have already taken great strides to expand local clean energy production, we are not doing nearly enough to combat the serious effects of climate change. We must continue to embrace clean energy and adopt energy efficiency measures to lead the nation toward a sustainable future.

Below is a copy of our letter in support of the 100% renewable energy campaign -- would you be interested in adding your name to this letter?

Just so you know, the letter is separate from our clean energy survey, and it won't be included as part of the report we release in July.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thanks again!

Zara Jamshed
Environment Massachusetts

617-747-4368
zjamshed@environmentmassachusetts.org

2

Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard

From: Ray Purington/Gill Selectboard <administrator@gillmass.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 13, 2016 4:07 PM
To: 'John.Keenan@masenate.gov'
Cc: 'Stan.Rosenberg@masenate.gov'; 'Karen.Spilka@masenate.gov'
Subject: Support for change to H. 4461, section 44
Attachments: 2016-0711 LettertoSenateWMreH4461EconDevt.pdf

Good afternoon, Chairman Keenan.

At their meeting of July 11, 2016, the Gill Selectboard voted unanimously to support the request and supporting rationale made in the attached letter dated July 8, 2016 to your Committee from Erica Mattison, Legislative Director of the Environmental League of Massachusetts, et al.

Please strike the sentence in section 44 of H. 4461 as outlined in the letter.

Sincerely,

Ray Purington
Administrative Assistant
Town of Gill
325 Main Road
Gill, MA 01354
P: 413-863-9347 F: 413-863-7775
administrator@gillmass.org www.gillmass.org

July 8, 2016

Chairman Keenan

The Senate Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets

CC: Senate President Rosenberg

Ways & Means Chairwoman Spilka

Re: H. 4461

Dear Chairman Keenan:

The undersigned organizations urge your Committee to strike one sentence from H. 4461 *An Act relative to job creation, workforce development and infrastructure investment*, which the House passed yesterday. By doing so, you will protect local environmental and public health regulations. The current language, as passed by the House, could undermine the objective of creating starter home districts by discouraging communities to adopt them.

The sentence in question is found in section 44 of the bill and would allow developers to override municipal environmental and health ordinances, bylaws or regulations in starter home districts, unless approved by the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) under unusual circumstances. Calling for MassDEP to make these determinations would require time intensive work by an agency that has been substantially cut in recent years.

This subsection reads as follows:

7) A proposed smart growth zoning district or starter home zoning district shall not be subject to limitation of the issuance of building permits for residential uses or a local moratorium on the issuance of such permits. **[We urge you to strike the following sentence.]** In addition, a proposed starter home zoning district shall not be subject to any municipal environmental or health ordinances, bylaws or regulations that exceed applicable requirements of state law or regulation, unless the department of environmental protection has determined that specific local conditions warrant imposition of more restrictive local standards, or the imposition of such standards would not render infeasible the development contemplated under the comprehensive housing plan, housing production plan or housing production summary submitted as part of the application for such district.

The requirement to override local public health and environmental standards in starter home districts would take away a community's voice for the environment, public health, and housing production, and would potentially impact environmental justice. For the below reasons, we ask you to strike the sentence noted above.

- **Environment:** More than 195 municipalities have environmental requirements that fill gaps and provide additional protections to the state requirements. Those municipal laws

include stronger management of stormwater, the major source of water pollution in Massachusetts, and better protections of wetlands. Without those local rules in starter home districts, more adverse impacts to wetlands and wildlife and more flooding in and near starter home districts would be likely. This is especially concerning given the anticipated increase in flooding and storm damage due to climate change.

- **Public Health:** Many municipalities have local public health requirements that exceed and fill in the gaps in state standards. Examples include: rules for marijuana dispensaries, minimum age to purchase tobacco products, and septic system requirements. From a public health perspective, those local health regulations should be applicable throughout a municipality to be effective, not exempting starter home districts.
- **Overloading an under-resourced agency:** The legislation would add another mandate to DEP, which is underfunded and understaffed. As you know, staffing at DEP is down 30% compared to fiscal year 2008 -- and DEP's responsibilities under state law have increased. The language we oppose would unnecessarily make DEP the arbiter of whether a municipal law is necessary or not to meet local requirements. That should remain a local decision, not one for a state agency to decide.
- **Environmental Justice:** The legislation would create a new environmental justice issue by allowing cities and towns to create zones for starter homes with the requirement that people living in those zones have diminished public health and environmental protections than others have elsewhere in the community. It is another example of putting low and moderate income families at higher risk.
- **Adoption of Districts:** The legislation could negatively impact the number of communities willing to adopt starter home districts. It is possible that cities and towns would be reluctant to establish these zones if it requires superseding their own local regulations, and many would see it as an overreach of state authority into home rule. Municipalities should establish starter home districts in areas that do not conflict with environmental and health regulations; or should make the decision locally whether those regulations should be adjusted.
- **The sentence is unnecessary.** The state already can reject a 40R district application if the requirements for housing production cannot be met.

For those reasons, the below public health and environmental organizations request that you strike the above noted sentence. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Erica Mattison, Legislative Director
Environmental League of Massachusetts

Eugene B. Benson, Executive Director
Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC)

Andre Leroux, Executive Director
Massachusetts Smart Growth Alliance

Maddie Ribble, Director of Public Policy and Campaign Strategy
Massachusetts Public Health Association

Cheryl Sbarra, Senior Staff Attorney
Massachusetts Association of Health Boards

Massachusetts Municipal Association

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Conservation Law Foundation

Julia Blatt, Executive Director
Massachusetts Rivers Alliance

Robert Zimmerman, Executive Director
Charles River Watershed Association

Alison Field-Juma, Executive Director
OARS - For the Assabet, Sudbury, and Concord Rivers

EkOngKar Singh Khalsa, Executive Director

Mystic River Watershed Association