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DURHAM ENERGY COMMITTEE
MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010
TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, DURHAM TOWN HALL
7:30 P.M.

MINUTES

I. Call to Order 7:30PM

Present: Fil Glanz, Don Brautigam, Kevin Gardner (Chair), Mike Hoffman, Robin Mower (Town Council Rep)

Absent: Dave Cedarholm (DPW Rep)

Guests: Peter Ejarque, Thomas Elliot (EDC Chair), Robert Coffey and David Walker from Green Power Management (GPM)

Minutes: Don Brautigam

II. Discussion with Thomas Elliot, Economic Development Committee, Chair

1. Tom announced that beginning March 22, the EDC will meet on the fourth Monday of every month at 7:00 PM in the Town Council Chambers. He said that the March 22 Planning Board meeting will be devoted to discussion with B. Dennis regarding the proposed Core Business District design.

Tom advocated that the EDC and the Energy Committee work together and provide representation at each other's meetings. The EDC has recently established the following subcommittees:

- A. Business outreach
- B. Revitalization
- C. Master Plan Chapter
- D. "Rebranding" Durham to encourage green tech companies

III. Presentation by Robert Coffey, Green Power Management Holding, Inc

Robert Coffey first contacted Todd Selig who then suggested that Mr. Coffey speak to the Durham Energy Committee regarding what his company has to offer, specifically:

1. Wholesale Power: Coffey presented a slide show to explain the concept and highlight potential savings to Durham. As explained on their website (www.greenpowermgt.com), GPM wholesale power accounts "allow customers to purchase their electricity supply

directly, without the ‘middlemen mark-up.’ ... Because power is purchased at wholesale and not retail rates, clients are able to have non-restrictive contracts with terms as short as 30 days.“

Through a preliminary analysis based on the electrical power consumption at the Durham's Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP), GPM suggests that Durham could save on the order of \$38k per year through the purchase of wholesale power.

2. KVAR Energy Controller: “The KVAR EC (Energy Controller) is an electromagnetic control system that can save up to 25% on your electrical bill by decreasing the amount of lost and wasted power at the meter.” This device is most effective when applied to continuously running motors.

GPM suggested that they do a more complete analysis, free of charge, on the electrical power consumption at Durham’s WWTP to estimate what the potential savings through the use of their KVAR Energy Controller would be.

IV. **Post GPM Presentation Discussion**

After the presentation, the DEC raised some concerns/issues:

1. How (if at all) would subscribing to Wholesale Power affect net-metering?
2. What would the impact be on currently available PSNH free programs
3. What would the effect be on our current lighting contract
(Peter Ejarque offered to look into these above 3 concerns)
4. The potential savings from Wholesale Power purchase appear substantial enough that the concerns (1-3) would be quite insignificant.
5. Mike Hoffman knows someone who was in the wholesale business and might have some valuable advice to offer. Mike is willing to give him a call.
6. With the potential savings, perhaps the Town would set up a “Green Account” (or similarly-named energy fund) to help fund some energy savings projects.
7. Kevin offered to write a letter to the Town Administrator suggesting that:
 - a. The town move forward with the complimentary evaluation of the potential savings from the implementation of the KVAR energy controller on the wastewater treatment plant.
 - b. Before moving forward with the wholesale pricing program, we’d like to know the answers to the above concerns
 - c. As the Town moves forward with energy-saving initiatives, it establish a fund into which a portion of the savings will be directed for future initiatives.

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V. **Minutes from Feb 8 meeting approved.**

VI. **Energy Chapter of the Master Plan**

We began to work through the most recent draft of the Master Plan Energy Chapter. It is anticipated that we will have a final draft to present to the Planning Board during their next upcoming quarterly meeting, though it is not clear what that date is.

VII. **Next meeting of the Committee:** Monday, April 12, 7:30 PM, Town Council Chamber

VIII. **Adjournment** – 10:30 PM