



Town of Uxbridge, Massachusetts Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: September 12, 2019

Place: Lower Town Hall Meeting Room

Attendance: Present or Absent

Peter DeMers - Chair	P	Evelyn Marchand	P	Eric Chamberland	P
Derek Affonce - Vice Chair	P	Bill Kessler	P	Pat Hannon - Clerk	P

Call to Order: 6:30 pm

Joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen

1. Pilot Agreements: Solar Farms
 - a. Kearsarge: 680 Hartford Ave East
 - b. Forefront Power: Newall Road/Depot Road

Kearsarge representative (Andrew) presented a tax payment rate increase each year to the personal property rate assessed along with a decrease in value per year (depreciation) of the property. The proposal would be over a 20-year period. Charts were presented to represent the proposal.

Joan Navarro, Town Assessor, indicated this approach was past practice set by a previous Town Manager, David Genereux.

The corporation's attorney indicated that the company preferred fixed taxes (PILOT). Discussed was an annual mandatory inventory of their assets. Tax rate payment options from the Town Accountant were requested by Mr. Hannon.

Often, corporations managing the Solar Farms do not own the land but own the assets such as solar panels and transmission equipment. Solar technology depreciates over time until upgrades are installed. The amount of energy to be generated is set by National Grid and the output decreases over time due to efficiency loss. A decommission bond is required for the project.

Forefront Power (Ed) presented the Newall Road/Depot Road site, which is in a floodplain but will not affect its operation according to the representative. Forefront Power noted that a 20-year agreement is the norm. DOR expects consistency in payment for these agreements and the Town Assessor noted that every PILOT tax proposal must go to the state for review. The PILOT tax payment must be consistent with Mass General Law. For this proposal, the tax revenue may be requested upfront and will have minimum impact on town services.

Committee members and the Town Manager will review proposed revenue charts for comparison of both tax revenue proposals, utilizing accounting resources and Town Counsel for taxable property questions. Qualifying exemptions to be clarified.

2. Minutes

None

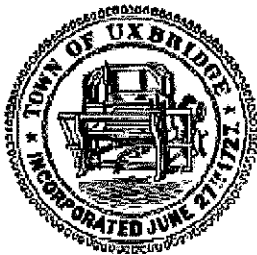
3. Old business

None

4. New business

Next meeting is September 19, 2019. Electronic versions of the Finance Committee duties, along with the Town Charter and Town Bylaws will be sent by the Chairman. Finance Committee responsibilities and duties will be discussed at the next meeting.

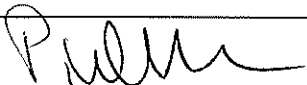






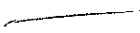

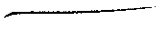
Motion	Adjourn at 8:11 pm				
1st	PH	2nd	DA	Vote	6-0-0



Finance Committee Approval Sheet

Date: September 12, 2019

Place: Lower Town Hall Meeting Room

Name	Signature	Date
Peter DeMers		18 FEB 2020
Evelyn Marchand		
Eric Chamberland		
Derek Affonce		25 Feb 2020
Bill Kessler		
Pat Hannon		
Russell Tahmoush	