



Town of Rockingham
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Rockingham Conservation Commission
Energy Sub-Committee

Minutes of Meeting with Chip Stearns & Mark Kelley of Efficiency
Vermont
August 19, 2015

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:06

Attending

Chip Stearns, Mark Kelley, Owen Dodge, Alan Fowler, Guy Payne, Devin Smith

Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE)

PACE stands for Property Assessed Clean Energy. It is another method of financing which will allow homeowners to invest in efficiency or renewable energy improvements to their homes through a special assessment tied to the property. The creation of a PACE district is the first step in making PACE available to eligible residential homeowners in the municipality.

Mark Kelley presented the key elements of the PACE program emphasizing there is no risk to the taxpayers, negligible burden for the Town Administration in case of default, and key changes to the current program designed to make the program more appealing to applicants. Municipality is expressly NOT liable for PACE project performance failure.

Key change is that all applications processing and monthly billing is done by EVT's processor (Opportunities Credit Union) as opposed to being billed on the property tax bill. This is a great help to the municipality in that they are not involved and do not have to worry about PACE being a resource strain.

Reporting involuntary liens is now the responsibility of the homeowner and not of the town to do the research.

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Mark emphasized the openness of his office to assist with any issues that may arise including attending Town Meeting.

All members of the Energy Committee who attended the meeting were in favor of recommending the adoption of a PACE program for Rockingham

Next Steps:

- Energy Committee recommends adoption PACE to the Conservation Commission
- If approved the Commission in November recommends to the Select Board that PACE be put on the Ballot for Town Meeting
- Prior to Town Meeting, the Energy Committee should consider holding a Public Forum on PACE and the Vermont Heat Saver Loan Program.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 5:05.