

**Town Of Truro
Energy Committee Minutes**

March 25, 2024

Present: Chair Brian Boyle, Vice-Chair Bob Higgins-Steele, Members Lindsey Wilson, David Spencer, Alternate Member Harry Irwin

Also present: 2 PowerOptions representatives, 1 Solect Energy representatives

Public Comment: None

Zach Holt from PowerOptions provided an in-depth presentation of their services as a non-profit energy services company with an emphasis on solar and storage procurement, including:

- Assisting municipalities with Solar procurement
- EV and Fleet procurement through multiple vendors how to cost
- Energy sustainability and Analytics
- Building Decarbonization Roadmap technical support through the Green communities

PowerOptions introduced their Solar vendor, Solect Energy, which has built over 100 solar arrays and canopies for municipalities, school districts and non-profits. PO can furnish Truro with Town names and contact numbers of some of their past projects.

Solect Energy's Allen Gilles presented their proposal for Truro's transfer station and School parking lot

Interconnection application fees and timing make projects over 60 KW more costly and take longer.

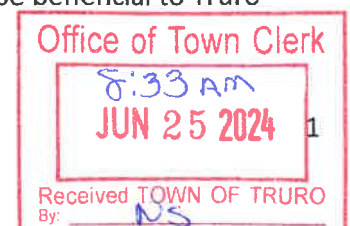
For example, the application fee for 215 KW canopies at the school parking lot would be \$357,000 due with the application. The cost would be a bit more for the larger array.

What we learned:

- Roofs need to be engineered to accommodate the additional weight of solar panels
- The wind and snow load in the building code updates have changed. In some cases, this may preclude installing panels on a roof. There would need to be an engineering study prior to proceeding
- Roofs are the least costly for PV installation
- The best time to install solar after a reroof, i.e., at the end of the service life of a roof
- Developing a parking lot canopy at the Truro Central School doesn't work financially as a lease
- Combining roof and canopy development at a single location can make developing a parking lot canopy financially viable

Other Points:

- Town doesn't need bill credits. (NMCs) Shedding Net Metering credits would be beneficial to Truro
- Solect believes the landfill does not qualify as a brownfield
- 1.5 MW of battery storage for the landfill would cost an additional \$4 Million



- PowerOptions lease payment includes a 30% ITC and the depreciation that a private corporation may take
- Lease and ownership are both on the table
- The approximate upfront cost for ownership of the landfill array is \$5 million including the prevailing wage
- A land-lease option for the landfill would net the Town approximately \$25,000 annually
- PowerOptions offers a lease buyout at 7,10 and 15 years. After 7 ,10 or 15 years Truro could own the project. The fair market value at those milestones is listed in the contract.
- PowerOptions believes they serve as a broker that can transfer NMCs to another Town that is a PowerOptions member
- Several Towns have developed solar arrays though PowerOptions. PowerOptions must cite the applicable procurement statutes or MGLs that would exempt the Town from issuing an RFP
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PowerOptions asked the Town to become members.

PowerOptions will furnish ownership costs and revenue projections for the capped land fill in the next week.

Adjourned 7:06 PM

Respectfully submitted by Bob Higgins-Steele

