

MEMORANDUM

FROM John F. Pacheco III
DATE: April 28, 2016
RE: Tax Treaty Negotiations

Over many months, the Town has been negotiating a tax agreement with Invenergy in connection with the proposed Clear River Energy Center anticipating the possible siting of a power plant off Wallum Lake Road in Pascoag. While we Councilors don't believe the power plant is a certainty, we do believe it would be irresponsible to not plan for the possibility. The process of negotiations is complicated and time consuming so early planning is a good way to protect the Town's interest in the event the Energy Facility Siting Board approves the Invenergy application.

The Town Council has heard from the public many times in many different forums. Naturally, we share resident's concerns. During an executive session on April 27th, the Town Council received another briefing from the Town's negotiating team on the status of a tax agreement. As we have said before, we are focusing on ensuring the Town gets the best financial deal we can for the entire community, requiring the company to commit to the Town for the long term, and on constructing a generic property value agreement for use by some of the abutters to protect property values. Among the topics discussed on the 27th were some concerns raised by residents we have been talking to and our team was directed to continue discussions, focusing on some of the issues the community identifies as their greatest concerns. I'm satisfied that negotiations are headed in the right direction.