

**BUCKSPORT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**7:00 P.M., MONDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2010**  
**TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBER-BUCKSPORT TOWN OFFICE**

1. Mayor Jeff Robinson called meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.
2. Members Present: Michael Ormsby, Byron Vinton, David Kee, Jeff Robinson, David Keene, Robert Howard. Members Absent: Brian Leeman.
3. Proceed to a workshop to discuss request from Verso to amend an existing TIF and establish a new TIF District

Town Manager briefly highlighted the existing TIF and the new proposed TIF – Turbine Project. Town Manager indicated that by keeping the project off the tax base means the town's educational aid and revenue sharing payments from the state would not be cut and the county tax bill would not increase because of the latest project. Therefore, the town would lose about 62 cents of every dollar it might gain from taxes on the Verso project because of these factors.

Mike Hawes, Plant Manager from Verso-Bucksport Mill stressed that the final decision on the turbine project hasn't been made at the firm's Tennessee Headquarters. Mike indicated that Verso is moving ahead with the permitting process in hopes this project receives approval. Once approved, hoping to start on the construction before the end of next year, and generating power sometime in 2012. Mike also indicated, that the new turbine will generate "green power," electricity from a renewable resource that the state is encouraging businesses to use.

Mike Hawes asked for council support on the project.

The councilors encouraged the Town Manager to map out a plan that would provide 25 to 35 percent of Verso's tax incentives savings to flow to the town. Byron Vinton suggested 75% Verso and 25% Town, same as the existing TIF. Dave Keene agreed, and said he likes consistency.

Mike Ormsby suggested 65% Verso and 35% Town.

The Councilor's took a straw vote setting the percentage at 75-25 and it ended in a tie vote: 3 Yes and 3 No.

However, the final decision cannot be made until a public hearing is scheduled on the actual TIF plan submitted by Verso.

4. Adjournment

It was motioned by Robert Howard, seconded by Byron Vinton and unanimously voted that the meeting be adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 8: 32 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy L. Downes  
Council Secretary