On April 12, 2012, the Board of Selectmen participated as “stakeholders” in a meeting facilitated by Stacie Smith of the Consensus Building Institute. By all accounts, the meeting set forth a favorable plan for consensus building. Upon arriving at that meeting, the Board of Selectmen received a written, unilateral demand from six abutters as a pre-condition to consensus building. This pre-condition demand was repeated a few days later to Stacie Smith as a requirement in exchange for the participation of those same abutters in the proposed consensus building process. Foremost in the pre-condition is the demand that the Town, in advance, cease the operations of both wind turbines.

In executive session, the Board has evaluated the additional exposure to the Town of Falmouth associated with our ongoing litigation and in the spirit of cooperation and collaboration has voted unanimously to meet those abutters half-way by terminating the operation of Wind1 and Wind2 from 7PM to 7AM to allow twelve hours a day without turbine operations. Therefore, the turbines will operate for twelve hours and be non-operating for twelve hours each day. The Board will implement this operational change as soon as practicable; this process of twelve hours on/twelve hours off operations will remain in place until the Board is presented with and endorses a short-term plan from the consensus building process.

We are encouraged by the possibility of the consensus building process to bring all stakeholders together to develop both a short-term and long-term scenario for our Wind Energy Program and we are anxious to begin.
During our next meeting on Monday, May 14, the Board will schedule a vote to formally endorse the consensus building process, to create a Falmouth Wind Turbine Options Analysis Committee, and to solicit representative members comprised of self-selected representatives of the following constituencies:

- Adversely affected neighbors
- Supporters of renewable energy
- Taxpayers who are not adversely affected by turbines but are concerned about Town’s fiscal well-being
- Relevant Town departments
- Board of Selectmen liaisons

More details about the nomination process including the nomination form and selection process will be available immediately following next week’s vote by the Board.

Further, the Board has voted to bring the necessary financial package which results from the best feasible plan at the time to a vote of the taxpayers at the earliest possible date but no later than May, 2013.

Note: This statement released by the Board of Selectmen at their meeting of Monday, May 7, 2012.