

Town of Shirley, MA

Energy Performance Contracting

Located in Middlesex County, Shirley offers modern amenities with a slice of quiet, small town life and rural ambiance. The town was incorporated in 1753 and has well-preserved historical roots, including the historic Shirley Shaker Meeting House that was built in 1793.

CHALLENGE

In 2011, the town of Shirley was awarded a Green Communities Grant to advance local and state clean energy goals. The town needed an expert in this field to carry out the grant's mandate of reducing energy consumption by 20 percent over the next five years.

The town selected ABM from 11 RFQ respondents based on ABM's exceptional work history and recognized expertise in energy conservation. ABM began an extensive evaluation of town-owned properties to establish energy benchmarks.

SOLUTION

ABM developed a plan that implemented energy conservation strategies and facility improvements that achieved two significant results: it



incurred no additional taxpayer burden and exceeded the 20 percent mandate.

ABM's plan identified a 26 percent reduction in energy consumption and created a 39 percent savings in actual dollars. Thanks to ABM's hard work and collaborative efforts, residents overwhelmingly approved funding for the project.

To execute the plan, ABM:

- Replaced more than 200 street lights with high-efficiency LED lights
- Switched heating fuel from oil to natural gas in three buildings
- Improved energy efficiency in seven community buildings with envelope upgrades and indoor climate stabilization
- Replaced five rooftop units at two buildings with high-efficiency units

BENEFITS

ABM's performance contracting plan exceeded the town's energy efficiency goal and more. Benefits included:

- Despite the third coldest winter on record, the town saw an overall decline in energy use
- Project funded more than \$680,000 in repairs through guaranteed operating cost reductions produced by ABM, requiring no increase in taxpayer burden
- Project created a 36% savings in utility costs from April 2016 to March 2017
- Improved safety with brighter, more consistent street lighting
- Lowered the town's carbon footprint

"We firmly believe that the 'do whatever it takes' attitude continuously displayed by ABM is a driving force and a reason why on the 5 of August 2013 we received a 91 percent approval to borrow at our Special Town Meeting to fund this project."

- Bryan Dumont,
Shirley Energy Committee Chairman



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