

# Cheaper power for county?

NEWPORT — Sullivan County officials anticipate the monthly electrical bill for county buildings will soon be experiencing a major reduction.

Two proposals to provide electricity were discussed at the Sept. 3 meeting of the county commissioners and a third company is expected to submit a proposal before a final decision is made.

The preliminary numbers from Glacial Energy of the Northeast, located in Sandwich, Mass., estimated the 2009 electrical cost savings for the county would be \$23,476.

That savings is based on the county's annual usage of 1,617,484 kilowatt hours for all buildings at the county complex in Unity and the county offices at 14 Main St., Newport.

According to figures provided by Glacial Energy, the estimated electric charges for that amount of power provided by Public Service Company of New Hampshire would be \$151,087. The Glacial Energy figure was listed at \$127,611,

a 16 percent savings.

Glacial Energy buys its energy from providers that offer the best pricing, terms and conditions and then passes those benefits on to its customers, according to a company press release.

"Electricity is provided to you through a three-step process: generation, transmission and distribution. New England's market gives you the ability to choose your electricity supplier. Electricity is still delivered over the same poles and wires and is not subject to choice," the news release continued.

"With Glacial Energy there is no contract, it is a month-to-month agreement," County Administrator Greg Chanis told the commissioners who voted 3-0 to accept the proposal by Glacial Energy pending receipt of the third anticipated proposal.

The second proposal from Utility Management Group of Hampton, N.H., showed an estimated annual savings of \$18,252.