



TOWN OF
NEWMARKET
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Energy and Environment Advisory Committee

Wednesday September 28, 2022 at 7pm

Town Hall, Council Chamber

Meeting Minutes

Approved October 26, 2022

Present: Sarah Stinson, Ruth Kane, Bill Raley, Emily Jones, Sean Moran, Joe Lamattina, Patrick Reynolds.

Excused: Ellen Read

Guests: Henry Herndon

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM.

Vice Chair Emily Jones will facilitate tonight's meeting.

New member Patrick Reynolds, Planning Board Representative was welcomed.

Public Comment opened at 7:04PM, no members of the public present.

Public Comment closed at 7:04 PM

Motion to approve Minutes from August 24, 2022 by Bill Raley, Second by Ruth Kane.

Motion approved 5-0-2. Abstaining Joe Lamattina, Patrick Reynolds – Both not present at the Aug. 24 meeting.

Joe Lamattina gave an update on the NHSaves – Button Up Newmarket webinar from 2022-09-27. There were 14 individuals, including the two presenters, on the Zoom call but as many as 56 on the live stream of Channel 13. A lot of information was presented during the 90 minute webinar. Overall it was considered a success. Joe Lamattina will post selected slides from the Webinar on the local Newmarket Facebook pages over the next few days.

There was discussion about the proposed PSA related to recycling and composting. The intent is for the Energy and Environment Committee to be a facilitator between the High School Sustainability Club and Channel 13. The Sustainability Club would be responsible for most aspects of the PSA. Patrick Reynolds

explained there are many things that are no longer recyclable as there is no demand for the material. Mr. Lamattina agreed and stated that is exactly what the PSA should cover. The committee now has a contact at the High School, Andrew Korman. The committee needs to discuss next steps at a future meeting.

There was discussion about what could be done related to tax credits for Solar/Renewable energy. The current Newmarket ordinance related to Solar Energy only allows for Solar Panels and associated equipment to be installed with no increase to the properties assessed value there is no actual tax credit/tax deduction. Mr. Lamattina stated that the new IRA (Inflation Reduction Act) effective Jan. 1, 2023 keeps the current 30% tax credit for solar installations for the next 10 years. It was noted Ellen Read has established contacts for future consultations. Further discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

Presentation on Ellen Reads tour of the Block Island Wind Farm was tabled for a future date.

The group, with the assistance of Henry Herndon, then worked on continued edits to the EAP (Energy Aggregation Plan). Minor edits were made. It was agreed to remove Section 8 which was to contain proposed updates to the Newmarket Master Plan related to energy. Henry stated, this section is not necessary to be included in the EAP. Additionally, any updates to the Newmarket Master plan must involve The Planning Board and The Town Council and inclusion would unnecessarily delay the EAP by multiple months. It was agreed the Energy and Environments Committee will continue to work on the Energy Section of the Master Plan as a separate task and present that at some point to The Planning Board and Town Council as recommended updates from the advisory committee.

The group then discussed next steps since the EAP is close to being finished. It was agreed the next step, once the EAP is ready, would be to present it to the Town Council in a separate workshop session then have the required two public hearings prior to returning to the Town Council for approval and ratification.

Joe Lamattina stated that for October and November the Town Council will be involved with 2023-2024 budget related sessions, so the earliest would-be early December where the EAP could be presented to the Town Council in a workshop session. The group agreed that would be ok but rather than lose any momentum it was agreed to hold a public forum in November. The group agreed on November 9th, 2022, 7PM Town Hall Auditorium. Note: The public forum is not a public hearing on the EAP, the objective will be to introduce CPC (Community Power Coalition), explain the benefits of having CPC as a default energy provider and update the public on where the Energy and Environment Committee stands in the process.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:14 PM

Next Meeting: Wednesday October 26, 2022 – Town Hall – 7PM