

Energy and Environment

June 7, 2022

Meeting Minutes



Meeting called to order at 7:05 PM

Attending Ellen Read, Joe Lamattina. Excused Anders Holm. No Quorum present.

Guests: Henry Herndon – Community Power Coalition (CPC), Peter Nelson (Ex EE Committee Member),

Although the committee did not have a quorum it was agreed to continue the meeting with the members and guests present, because there is no quorum no formal actions would be approved during this meeting.

No members of the public were present, public session opened and closed at 7:06.

Ms. Read discussed the fact Revision Energy has completed their Solarize Newmarket campaign, they signed up 13 customers for an estimated 147.6 KW of clean solar energy generation.

Ms. Read stated she has supplied Committee Member Lamattina with the proposed draft of a resolution calling for Newmarket to commit to clean, renewable energy sources for town facilities by 2030 and heating and transportation by 2050. Mr. Lamattina will pass the draft resolution onto the Town Manager and Town Council Chair for their review and presentation to the Town Council.

Henry Herndon from the Community Power Coalition (CPC) gave a brief overview of CPC and their current status. The objective is for CPC to procure energy agreements sourced from clean renewable resources and make that energy available to member communities at rates that are competitive with default energy providers such as Eversource. Eversource would continue to own and maintain delivery infrastructure. Currently there are 19 communities/municipalities participating (including Newmarket). CPC now has a formal executive board and CPC has just released an RFP for a vendor to manage the procurement process. The RFP went out to multiple potential vendors.

There was discussion related to where Newmarket stands in the process, Newmarket has completed several steps, Newmarket has agreed to participate in the program naming Town Manager Steve Fornier and Town Council Chair Toni Weinstein as board members. Newmarket has collected aggregate electric utilization data. The next step is for Newmarket to complete an Electric Aggregation Plan (EAP) utilizing a template supplied by CPC. The EAP documents policy goals and steps to achieve policy goals. The committee will conduct a workshop meeting on June 30th with CPC representatives for the purpose of developing the EAP. The Town Council will need to approve the EAP at some point. There was discussion about timing, it was agreed it would likely be in the fall, early winter that the EAP would be ready.

There was discussion about co-sponsoring with the Town Council a town wide webinar entitled NHSAVES-BUTTON UP. The webinar presented by NHSAVES is a presentation about improving the energy efficiency of homes and apartments. There is no charge for the webinar as it is sponsored by NH Utility companies. The EE Committee is in favor of sponsoring this webinar, Mr. Lamattina will pass this onto the Town Council to see if they are interested in co-sponsoring this program.

There was discussion about approaching the Newmarket High School Environmental Group and asking them to develop a PSA/Video relating to "Recycling in Newmarket, What you can and cannot recycle and why". The Newmarket Environmental Services Department has had issues lately with things being placed in the recycle bins that are not appropriate. Ms. Read was in favor of this but would like to know more. Ms. Read will contact Environmental Services Director Sean Greig to see if he is available for discussion. Mr. Lamattina requested any correspondence with town employees include a CC to the Town Manager. Mr. Nelson stated there is a website NewHampshireNetwork.ORG that supports links to various groups that can be resources for environmental issues.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm

Next meeting(s) : Workshop for developing EAP – June 30th - Town Hall - 7pm;

Regular Session - July 5th – Town Hall – 7pm