



TOWN OF
NEWMARKET
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Energy and Environment Advisory Committee

Wednesday February 28, 2024 at 7pm

Town Hall, Auditorium

Meeting Minutes

Present: Partick Reynolds, Joe Lamattina, Roberta Branca, Ellen Read, Bill Raley

Guest: Lyndsay Butler (Town Engineer), Sonke Dornblut (Town Councilor),
Autumn Scott (Strafford Regional Planning Commission)

Excused: Julianna Tyson, Alex Rentumis

Absent: Glenn Stevens

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM.

Public Comment Open at 7:02

Public Comment Closed at 7:02

Chair Ellen Read informed the group that member Ginny Ouellette has resigned.

Minutes from Nov. 29, 2023

Motion to approve – Joe Lamattina

Second – Bill Raley

Approved – 4, 0, 1 Abstain

Minutes from Dec. 29, 2023

Since there was no quorum, no formal meeting occurred.

No vote required.

The Committee heard a presentation from Autumn Scott from The Strafford Regional Planning Commission relating to the Newmarket Master Plan update.

Autum walked through the proposed project phases and plan approach.

There was discussion about the Energy Chapter outline and document that The Committee had submitted.

There was discussion the Energy and Environment Committee is also charged with recommending best practices for Transportation. Since Transportation will be a separate chapter in the Master Plan, the Energy and Environment Committee will be involved. Joe Lamattina brought up the fact that the Town Council is setting up an Ad-Hoc Committee to recommend public transportation options.

There was discussion about next steps, there will be opportunities to bring in experts and engage the committee and the public. Patrick Reynolds volunteered to represent the committee on “Team 4”, the Strafford Groups team working on the Energy Chapter.

Homework for The Committee:

- 1.) Review Master Plan Energy Chapters from other communities, what’s good, what’s bad.
- 2.) Of the document we submitted, what is technical detail that should be moved to the appendix section.
- 3.) Who are the experts we want to engage?

If needed we can correspond with Autumn via email (AScott@Strafford.org)

Joe gave an update on the Newmarket Community Power statistics as of mid February.

4,071 – Identified for enrollment to Newmarket Community Power (does not include OptIn)
39 – Have Opted Out
56 – Have Opted In

All on track for a March cutover from Eversource to Newmarket Community Power.

The committee met with Town Councilor Sonke Dornblut to discuss public transportation.

Town Council recently met with Coast Transportation to discuss the current status and what we might get out of Coast in the future if we engage more. Newmarket currently only has a “Reservation Only” option with Coast Transportation.

If we engage with Coast there are potentially options that reconnects Newmarket thru Durham to Dover. However, federal and state funds are already spoken for, cost for Newmarket to do it alone would be prohibitive.

Ellen mentioned Coast had done an extensive survey of ridership in 2019, the committee should get a copy of that.

There was discussion about previous suggestions that were made. Joe stated he did share those with Sonke.

Autum stated that Strafford maintains regional plans and would like us to include them, helps with potential federal funding.

Next steps is the creation of the Ad Hoc Transportation Committee and get copies of the Coast 2019 Survey. Ellen would potentially like to be on this committee.

Sonke to share what we got from Coast with Lyndsay.

Next meeting Wednesday, March 27, 2024 – Town Hall Auditorium – 7PM

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 PM