



TOWN OF
NEWMARKET
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Energy and Environment Advisory Committee

Wednesday May 29, 2024 at 7pm

Town Hall, Auditorium

Meeting Minutes

Present: Partick Reynolds, Joe Lamattina, Julianna Tyson, Glenn Stevens

Excused:, Ellen Read, Bill Raley

Meeting called to order at 7:02 PM.

Attendance taken, committee does not have a quorum but will continue the meeting with no formal decisions being made.

Public Comment Open at 7:02

Public Comment Closed at 7:02

Joe stated that Vice Chair Roberta Branca has submitted her resignation, there are now 3 openings on the Energy and Environment Committee. If anyone knows anyone that may be interested, please send them to the Town Secretary, Wendy Chase.

Joe updated the group on the latest Newmarket Community Power statistics:

April was the first full month of Newmarket Community Power being live, Statistics are as of May 7, 2024.

- 4,068 - Active accounts.
- 4,047 – Are in the default service Granite Basic (23% Clean Energy)
- 21 – Are in a higher Clean Energy Service. (6 – Clean 100%, 7 – Clean 50%, 8 – Clean 33 %)
- 48 – Accounts have Opted Out (1.18% of current active)
- 88 – Accounts have Opted In (2.16% of current active).

Joe stated in the future we will be able to show actual resident savings compared to what they would have spent with Eversource.

Joe stated that with the next Electric Rate Cycle (August 2024 thru January 2025) communities will be able to add a “Discretionary Fee” to the electric rates. The Energy and Environment Advisory Committee is also the appointed Newmarket Electric Aggregation Committee whose responsibility is to “advise” the Town Council and Town Manager on electric aggregation issues. Since there is no quorum the committee cannot take a formal vote but we can poll the group for a consensus. The unanimous consensus was, whereas the Newmarket Community Power Program has just started we should wait for a while before considering adding a “discretionary fee”. Joe will pass that on to the Town Council.

Note: Whereas providing advice that potentially impacts Newmarket Residential Electric Rates, (this will happen twice a year from now on), the committee should adopt a formal process where a vote is taken and the Town Council and Town Manager are formerly notified of the Electric Aggregation Committees recommendations. The committee has the authority to recommend a discretionary fee (across all products) and recommend what the default electric product should be (Granite Basic, Granite Plus, Clean 50, Clean 100).

Joe stated there is going to be a contest amongst Seacoast Community Power communities that will run from August thru December. The objective will be to see which communities can get a greater percentage of accounts to upgrade to a higher level of clean energy. There may also be a couple of other different categories in the contest such as most improved carbon emission reduction, total percent of participation in each product above Granite Basic. The group responsible for the contest is currently working on the parameters for the contest. In the meantime Joe asked what can this committee can do to promote the contest. One suggestion was to have a booth at the upcoming (August) “Back Yard Bash”. The group thought this was a good idea.

Action Items: 1.) Joe will reserve a booth space for Newmarket Community Power. 2.) Homework assignment for the group, consider options for promoting the contest and add as agenda item for next meeting.

There was discussion about the Energy Chapter of the Master Plan. Lyndsay (via previous email) noted our Strafford Regional Planning Rep, Autum Scott, has resigned and there hasn’t been a lot of activity on the chapter.

Next meeting Wednesday, June 26, 2024 – Town Hall Auditorium – 7PM

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM