

CANTERBURY COMMUNITY POWER COMMITTEE

DRAFT MINUTES

**Wednesday, October 25, 2023
Canterbury Municipal Complex**

Opened: 7:00 PM

Adjourned: 8:17 PM

Committee Members in Attendance:

Lenore Howe

Tim Meeh

Kelley Stonebraker, Secretary

Howard Moffett, Chair

John Schneider

Ben Stonebraker

Committee Members Absent:

Scott Doherty

Kent Ruesswick

Beth McGuinn

Others in attendance:

N/A

I. Minutes of October 4, 2023 CCPC meeting

- a. First: Tim
- b. Second: Ben
- c. All approved WITH AMENDMENT (added Nov 2 solar presentation meeting to upcoming meetings)

II. Internet Project: Is it a done deal?

- a. Need Kent update in next meeting

III. Clean Fleets Project – what we learned

- a. There was an issue with whether our proposal to replace a 1988 Bucket Loader would have qualified for the grant, because “truck” was not clearly defined in the application information, and there was also an age restriction – it turned out that the bucket loader would not be considered a truck, but “heavy equipment”, and was too old to qualify.
- b. Education is one aspect of this, and we did learn more about the process, and have introduced the use of electric vehicles in town highway department

IV. Updates on CPCNH

- a. We have requested an updated summary from CPCNH of total accumulated reserve funds based on how far we are along
- b. CPC NH Board meeting – Howard planning to attend remotely
- c. CPCNH is asking for a quarterly update from utilities on new customers in town so that CPCNH can contact them regarding opting in
- d. Granite Basic (CPCNH base rate) is lower than any other supplier available in the state
 - i. Even the next level up is lower than other suppliers – this means a bump up of Canterbury’s default from basic to plus (increasing share of renewable sources from the minimum required 24% to 33% renewable sources) would still save residents.
- e. Should know next rates by late December, which would be effective in January – Selectboard will have to decide what to use as default rate for Canterbury
- f. Bumping up the default does not mean everyone has to use that rate – people can opt down
- g. We should also consider reminding residents that they can opt up, especially if the rate is still better than other suppliers.

V. Discussion of solar/battery group project

- a. There are many different possibilities for how this could work
- b. Makes sense to explore what this might look like – municipal solar farms owned by town, etc.
- c. Wondering if CPCNH might envision that as a possibility in the future
 - i. They might have resources or contacts that would be helpful
 - ii. In the past they have suggested that it might make sense for multiple towns to get together to finance a project together
- d. Public Utilities may also be interested in these projects – more than we might think
- e. Lebanon has done this – might be worth looking into as a model – they have a pilot project with Liberty also for battery storage
- f. Discussed Group net-metering and battery storage

VI. Working Groups, Future Meeting Plans

- a. Decided not to split up this meeting, but plan going forward will be to meet as part of CCPC meetings, with additional meetings as needed to be decided within each working group

VII. Upcoming Meetings/Events

- a. Local Energy Solutions Conference, Nov. 2
 - i. Lenore and Beth planning to attend
- b. Solar Presentation by Beth McGuinn – November 2, 7PM at Canterbury Municipal Complex
 - i. Will email other town committees that might be interested
 - ii. Could add event in town email
- c. NHMA (New Hampshire Municipal Association) Annual Meeting November 16

VIII. Discussed CPCNH Email Received re Solar Credits

- a. Stonebrakers recently received an email from CPCNH informing them they were accidentally enrolled in Canterbury Community Power even though they have solar, and their solar credits from May-September may not have been credited properly.
- b. Contacted CPCNH and provided records of our solar production for that time period – it appears CPCNH will provide the credits if we provide the information, which is recorded on monthly bill.
- c. Will update the committee at next meeting on how this is going.
- d. Discussed that we have not heard about anyone else receiving this message, which is a good sign that it is not an issue with all solar producers.
- e. If it does come up, we now have experience with how it is handled.
- f. PUC issued a prehearing order in September that it has decided CPCNH is right that they are entitled to data from utilities on net exports to the grid and data on taking from the grid – this has been a fundamental issue utilities have not agreed to – this information really should be provided from the utilities directly to CPCNH so that this issue does not happen, and solar producers are able to participate in CPCNH and still receive solar credits

IX. Discussed potential conflict of interest issues

- a. Discussed how conflicts of interest may arise with the new projects we are working on and going forward
- b. Discussed applicable conflict of interest standards and planned to continue discussion with full committee and keep an eye out for these issues going forward

Adjourned at 8:17 PM

Next Meeting:

Thursday, November 2 at 7PM at the Canterbury Municipal Complex at 26 Baptist Road – Solar Presentation by Beth McGuinn

Thursday, December 7 at 7PM at the Canterbury Municipal Complex at 26 Baptist Road

Submitted by Kelley L. Stonebraker, Secretary