

## Energy Committee Meeting

December 5, 2022

Members present: Howard Moffett, Fred Portnoy, Jeff Beltramo, Claudia Leidinger, Beth McGwinn, and Ruth Heath as alternate. Kent Ruesswick was the selectboard representative. The meeting began at 7:05PM in the Library Meeting room. Ruth was made a voting member since Sandy Hodsdon was absent

Our agenda included:

1. Approval of the previous meeting minutes
2. Community power Update
3. Selectboard meeting- Jeff and Ruth

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

Howard spoke about the CCPC and the work being done by the committee.

1. The CCPC has finalized a survey that is going on the Town website tomorrow to poll residents about electricity usage and needs. Paper copies of the survey will also be available at the store and library.

2. The CCPC will have a draft aggregation plan on the town website by December 12 with a draft aggregation plan to be presented at the Parish House on December 12 to any interested town residents. The presentation will cover what is community power, major sections of the plan, and a section on what residents can do now before community power launches to reduce electric bills.

3. Another public meeting will be held in January 2023 to explain community power and the aggregation plan. Then the plan will be voted on at Town Meeting March 2023 to launch in the spring of 2024.

Howard reported that Peterborough had requested an agent/broker. The coalition would act as one for Canterbury. The town will get a "service bundle" that will beat/meet renewable energy options. No one who is net metering now will be harmed financially by community power.

Jeff went to the Selectboard meeting with Ruth to ask what they would like to see our committee accomplish. Solar panels on some town buildings and LED upgrades to lighting in Municipal Building was mentioned. The fire bay has been converted to LED lighting. The rest of the Municipal Building has not.

In theory solar panels will pay for themselves over 6-7 years. Towns/municipalities can net meter and in fact have favored status.

Beth discussed the possibility of paying someone a small fee to advise us on what projects to undertake. Expert opinion would be welcome to help prioritize such things as fans, LEDs, solar projects, street lighting and commercial energy efficiencies. Members were asked what they wanted the committee to continue to work on. Projects mentioned were solar panels on more town buildings and heat pumps for the meeting house. The need for the committee to get RFPs for work without a budget to work with is slow and frustrating.

Ruth will contact Katie McKay who was working with Unitil to upgrade streetlights to LEDs and see what Katie's progress was.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45. Our next meeting will be January 2nd.

Respectfully submitted, by Claudia Leidinger, Secretary.