

## Energy Committee Meeting

February 6, 2023

Members present: Howard Moffett, Fred Portnoy, Jeff Beltramo, Claudia Leidinger, Beth McGuinn, Sandy Hodsdon and Ruth Heath as an alternate. The meeting began at 7:05PM in the Library Meeting room.

Our agenda included:

1. Approval of the previous meeting minutes
2. Ruth's update on street lighting
3. Community power update from Howard
4. Results of the poll Jeff posted for possible Energy Committee projects

1. Minutes from the January meeting were moved and approved by unanimous vote.

2. Ruth spoke with a representative from Unitil who has been working with Ken Folsom concerning updating the streetlights to LED bulbs. Unitil will be installing LED lights free of charge when the supplies are available.

3. Howard shared that despite poor weather more than 30 residents came to the second public hearing in January to discuss CCP. He reported there is a good possibility of CCP launching in 2023. The selectboard voted 3-0 to pass the EAP and place it on the ballot at Town Meeting. The Town Meeting on March 17, 2023 has to approve the initiative by a simple majority. The EAP is currently under-review by the PUC with 60 days to review. The 60 day window closes the day of the town meeting. Canterbury may launch with another town/city or it may be able to go out as a single town. The first wave may be launching in late April. Canterbury could be in a second wave.

Eversource has been very uncooperative, unlike Unitil. But the coalition leadership and their consultants have found a way around Eversource. The PUC can challenge Eversource's lack of cooperation. The utilities must supply a contact list for all the customers in town.

Howard said that larger companies have always paid lower rates. Sandy commented that it was great with the coalition that the little guys can now be a part of a group with influence and receive lower rates.

4. Jeff tallied the results of the Energy Committee Project Priorities poll. Municipal Solar and Education had the highest number of votes. Municipal building LED lighting and a town energy website were tied for the second highest priority. Charging stations, Energy Consulting, Panel Maintenance and Grants were lower on the list. The last priority was assigned to the stratification fans.

Howard made the point that a lot of Federal money was going to become available through the Federal Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). Some may come through the state of NH and some by Federal grants.

We need to come to our next meeting with more ideas on how to carry out these priorities.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20. Our next meeting will be March 6<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 7:00PM.

Respectfully submitted, by Claudia Leidinger, Secretary.