

Attachment 3: Town Policy Excerpts

1) 2018 Canterbury Town Energy Committee Mission Statement

The Canterbury Energy Committee's mission is to encourage and facilitate energy conservation, energy efficient practices and the use of sustainable energy in the Town of Canterbury, including public buildings and properties, businesses and resident homes.

Roles and objectives:

1. Act in a supportive capacity and as a resource to the Selectmen, Town Departments, other Town Boards, committees, and commissions in connection with matters relating to energy conservation, energy efficiency, ways to decrease town energy costs, and the reduction of Canterbury's greenhouse gas emissions, including but not limited to these areas:
 - Municipal buildings, facilities and operations
 - Fuels, vehicles, heavy machinery and transportation
 - Agriculture and landscaping
 - Waste management
 - Responsible purchasing
 - Housing and building codes
 - Energy production and zoning concerning air quality
2. Build awareness among Canterbury residents, businesses, and other organizations regarding their energy consumption, habits, and demands; and the availability of more efficient and/or renewable energy resources.
3. Promote the incorporation of energy efficient features in new construction and renovation (both public and private) through education and outreach.
4. Seek grant opportunities and partnerships, where necessary, to provide financial assistance in the implementation of innovative energy initiatives
5. Form subcommittees, as necessary, to focus on specific objectives of the Energy Committee including, without limitation, grant writing, education, public relations, and outreach.

2) Proposed Alternative Draft Language for 2024 Canterbury Master Plan Update

The Canterbury Planning Board is currently leading a process to update the Town's Master Plan, last revised in 2010. Energy goals were not specifically addressed in the 2010 edition, presumably because energy issues were not "front-of-mind" in the Town as they are now. The updated Master Plan is scheduled for completion in late 2023.

In order to include energy expressly in the upcoming revision of the Master Plan, three Town boards and committees with an interest in energy (Planning Board, Energy Committee, and

Community Power Committee) are working together to draft Town energy policy goals. Early drafts are organized into two alternative potential formulations, shown below as subparts 2.a (organized in paragraph outline form in the event the Planning Board elects to put the energy goals into a separate section of the Master Plan), and 2.b (organized in shorter sentence outline form should the Planning Board choose to insert individual energy goals into different Master Plan sections based on subject matter). In either case, we hope the draft energy goals proposed below will start a three-way discussion, with the understanding that they will undergo significant further revision, coordinated by the Planning Board, as the Master Plan evolves over the next year.

2.a: Proposed Energy Goals in Paragraph Outline Form

A. Energy Leadership Goals and Objectives.

1. Town support for a strong Energy Committee whose duties are to:
 - a. Advise and collaborate with the Select Board, the Planning Board, the Canterbury Community Power Committee, and other town entities on energy related topics.
 - b. Lead initiatives to improve energy efficiency, energy conservation, and clean energy use in Town Government and for residents and businesses.
2. Town support for the Canterbury Community Power Committee (CCPC) in its efforts to:
 - a. Complete an “Electric Aggregation Plan” for approval by Canterbury residents at Town Meeting in 2023 and
 - b. Work with the Select Board to “launch” a Community Power program in Canterbury, offering lower electric rates to residents and more renewable power options than are currently available as part of utility default energy service, at the earliest opportunity, likely in the fall of 2023 or spring of 2024.

B. Energy Conservation Goals and Objectives.

To support the Energy Committee as a resource to the Selectmen, Town Departments, other Town boards, committees and commissions in its work to:

1. Educate residents about existing conditions in Canterbury in matters relating to energy conservation, energy efficiency, ways to decrease town energy cost, and the reduction of Canterbury’s greenhouse gas emissions, and then work with the Town to make appropriate recommendations, in matters including but not limited to these areas:

- municipal buildings, facilities and operations
 - fuels, vehicles, machinery and transportation
 - agriculture and landscaping
 - waste management
 - responsible purchasing
 - housing and building codes
 - energy production and zoning concerning air and water quality
2. Build awareness among Canterbury residents, businesses, and other organizations regarding their energy consumption habits and demands, and the availability of more efficient and/or renewable energy resources.
 3. Promote the incorporation of energy efficient features in new construction or renovation (both public and private) through education and outreach.
 4. Seek grant opportunities and partnerships, where possible, to provide financial assistance in the implementation of innovative energy initiatives including, where appropriate, applications for Federal funding available under the Inflation Reduction Act.
 5. Adopt the most current version of an appropriate building code that subscribes to high standards for building insulation, energy efficiency, resource conservation and green building practices. The town will continuously consider emerging innovations and improvement trends in energy conservation in construction.

C. Energy Supply and Generation Goals and Objectives:

To insure that affordable, sustainable, diverse, renewable energy is available to Town residents and businesses, now and in the future, support the Canterbury Community Power Committee in its efforts to achieve the following objectives:

Objectives:

- a. Provide electricity to Canterbury consumers at lower rates than those offered for default energy service by our current utilities (Unitil, Eversource and New Hampshire Electric Co-op.)
- b. Offer electricity consumers in Canterbury choices for their power supplier including those that source a higher percentage of renewable energy than that mandated by current New Hampshire law.
- c. Maintain membership with the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) or a similar regional non-profit aggregate electricity buying organization, in order to purchase electric power at the lowest rates.

- d. Seek out new funding opportunities as they become available for purchase and installation of renewable energy projects in Canterbury.
- e. Consider establishing an electricity generation trust fund available to municipal, business and residential electricity users to purchase state-of-the-art technology.
- f. Encourage the Canterbury Planning Board to request energy plans be part of all new development in Town.
- g. Establish the Town of Canterbury as an energy-conscious community through continuing its focus on energy efficiency at all levels by:
 - Advocating the reduction of fossil fuel use in residences, businesses and municipal buildings; and working toward energy independence for the Town within an agreed-to time frame.
 - Encouraging the purchase and use of electric vehicles and the creation of efficient charging stations in the Town center and at business and retail facilities.
 - Supporting the creation of Town zoning ordinances that allow large-scale solar installations in appropriate locations, especially where they have minimal impact on agricultural land.
 - Fostering favorable tax policies toward residents and businesses that invest in renewable energy generation.

D. Energy-Related Economic Development Goals and Objectives:

As part of the Master Plan update, conversations have been taking place around Town about many of the plan's aspects including economic development. As Canterbury continues its strong commitment to lowering energy costs and improving the supply of renewable energy, it will be in good position to attract new businesses. If a commercial business or a company conducting light industrial production is looking for a new location in the greater Concord area, Canterbury is likely to stand out as a location due to its lower cost of doing business, specifically its energy costs. These are the types of businesses that Canterbury is most interested in attracting.

Furthermore, opportunities exist for Canterbury to develop truly innovative infrastructure projects to benefit both commercial and residential properties including municipal power generation and community battery storage. As new technologies emerge, the CCPC will continue to research and adopt them to improve Canterbury's energy picture going forward.

The Canterbury Community Power Committee and its projects represent a key ingredient in fulfilling the Town's energy and other goals contained in its Master Plan.

2.b: Alternative Energy Content for Master Plan in Sentence Outline Form

CCPC has prepared this alternative rough draft of potential energy goals to be reviewed and revised by the Energy Committee and the Planning Board for potential inclusion in separate

sections of the work-in-process Master Plan, in the event the Planning Board chooses not to include a chapter specifically focused on energy issues:

- a. Support a strong Energy Committee to 1) advise Select Board, Planning Board and other town entities on energy related topics and 2) lead initiatives to improve energy conservation, energy efficiency and clean energy use in town government and for residents and businesses.
- b. Ensure that affordable, sustainable and diverse energy, including clean energy, is available to Town residents and businesses, now and in the future.
- c. Promote Canterbury as an energy conscious community to attract environmentally responsible commercial and residential development.
- d. Become more self-reliant and less dependent on centralized energy systems by adding residential, commercial and municipal generation of local renewable energy.
- e. Set appropriate carbon reduction targets for Municipal buildings, vehicles and functions.
- f. Make improvements to municipal buildings and pursue energy savings in all municipal systems (streetlights, vehicle fleet, waste management) to reduce overall municipal carbon footprint to the greatest extent feasible.
- g. Plan for efficient growth and development patterns and transportation systems using Smart Growth and Sustainability principles.
- h. Adjust economic considerations on municipal projects to reflect the life cycle costs of the building/project and not just the initial capital costs of construction.
- i. Advocate for and educate about the benefits of fossil fuel reduction in residences, businesses and municipal buildings.
- j. Encourage the purchase and use of electric vehicles.
- k. Adopt a Solar Ordinance that encourages responsible solar development and sets appropriate and consistent guidelines at residential and commercial scales.
- l. Support establishing Community Power in Canterbury to offer electricity at a lower rate and with more choices for renewable energy than that mandated by law.
- m. Maintain membership in the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) or a similar regional non-profit aggregate electricity buying organization, in order to purchase electric power at the lowest rates.
- n. Seek out new funding opportunities as they become available for purchase and installation of renewable energy projects in Canterbury.
- o. Consider establishing an electricity generation trust fund available to municipal, business and residential electricity users to purchase state-of-the-art technology.
- p. **Consider requesting/requiring energy plans be part of all new development in Town.**
- q. Encourage location of level 1, 2 and and/or 3 electric vehicle charging stations at Exit 17, Exit 18, Rte 106, and in Canterbury Center and at Shaker Village.

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- r. Support the creation of Town zoning ordinances that allow commercial-scale solar installations in appropriate locations.

