



TOWN OF
NEWMARKET
NEW HAMPSHIRE

Energy and Environment Advisory Committee

Wednesday May 31, 2023 at 7pm

Town Hall, Auditorium

Meeting Minutes

Present: Bill Raley, Ellen Read, Joe Lamattina, Alex Rentumis, Julianna Tyson

Excused: Patrick Reynolds, Roberta Branca,

Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM.

Roll call taken.

Public Forum Opened at 7:06 PM

No members of the public present.

Public Forum closed at 7:06 PM.

Minutes from April 26, 2023 were approved.

Motion Bill Raley.

Second, Joe Lamattina.

All voted in favor.

Public Transportation Discussion:

Ellen discussed her conversation with Carol Gulla relating to public transportation being eliminated in Newmarket. Carol may be able to meet with the group at our next meeting in June. It was suggested a route between Newmarket and Durham to connect with Wildcat and perhaps an additional route to Market Basket in Stratham would be feasible. Alex brought up the fact that there may be a need to connect to Exeter Hospital as well. It was agreed that what is required as a first step is to do some kind of survey to determine the actual need for public transportation in Newmarket. Coast might be able to help.

Joe Lamattina updated the group on the current status of the New Hampshire Community Power Coalition and Newmarket's Electric Aggregation Plan. The Newmarket Town Council approved the Newmarket Electric Aggregation Plan (EAP) at their May 17th meeting. Next step is for Newmarket to submit the EAP to the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission which then has 60 days to review and approve, Submission to the PUC is expected to happen the week of June 5th. Next step after the Public Utilities approval would be for the Town Manager to review and recommend or not recommend to the Town Council approval of the contracts between Newmarket and New Hampshire Community Power Coalition.

That is expected to happen late fall early winter and final Town Council approval around March 2024. Joe then updated the group on the current status of New Hampshire Community Power Coalition (NHCPC). NHCPC went live at the end of April 2023 with what NHCPC referred to as Wave 1 which consisted of towns of Enfield, Exeter, Hanover, Harrisville, Lebanon, Nashua, Peterborough, Plainfield, Rye and Walpole. Shortly thereafter Portsmouth and Canterbury went live in what was referred to as Wave 1.5. Joe showed a slide supplied by NHCPC that showed the enrollment status as of May 22, 2023. At that point approximately 63,000 had been enrolled in Community Power Coalitions and less than 1% have opted not to join their local Community Power. If Newmarket approves the adoption of Newmarket Community Power, Newmarket will likely be included in what is scheduled as Wave 3 which will be in the spring of 2024.

There was discussion about home energy audits. Post meeting note: Eversource offers home energy audits to homeowners. Renters and Landlords may qualify, they need to fill out a questionnaire.

The group then continued with discussion and editing of the Energy Chapter of the Towns Master Plan referred to as the Master Energy Plan (MEP). The group agreed the Master Energy Plan is evolving into a document with 4 main categories:

1. Introduction
2. Values
3. Objectives
4. Recommendations

The group agreed, Section 4, Recommendations, can then serve as the base for the Resolution Energy Plan (REP), a resolution by the Town Council which calls for achieving sustainable electric energy by 2030 and sustainable energy sources for heating and transportation by 2050.

The document can be found at:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1VJ29jIhJexL0DxfzuHMvJ6uFPJ9t92Y0/edit?usp=sharing&oid=106862949136239997487&rtpof=true&sd=true>

It was agreed Joe would convert the latest Google document to Microsoft Word and distribute a clean copy to the group.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:19 PM

Next Meeting: Wednesday June 28, 2023 – Town Hall Auditorium – 7PM