

New Boston Energy Commission Meeting  
Prepared By: Ryan Nealley  
Attendees: Ryan, Bill, Daryl, Donna  
Missing: Susan, Roger

December 6, 2022

## Old Business

- **Standard Power Discussions**

- Renewable Energy and Municipal Power Purchasing
- For Community Power they partner with Good Energy
- In NH they have 8 towns including the city of Keene
- We could be on track to submit a plan for 2023
- Community power was approved in 2023.
- They also do group net metering
- The power company doesn't make money on the supply portion
- In Somerville, MA is an example base power rate is typically below the utility default. It beat default 9 out of 10, 6-month periods
- Program is an opt-out style program. All residents are automatically opted into the program. It allows for residents to opt out at any time.
- Program utilizes REC's to verify renewable energy projects
- Green Default plan increases green energy supply by almost 50%.
  - 50% and 100% renewable energy options are also allowable
- 2,200 Households in town 6-7,000 kwh per household.
- They do a community survey to determine what the town on all wants to want to do renewable energy wise.
- They then produce 3 to 4 plans options based on the renewable content.
- No risk to the municipality or customers. All risks are the suppliers and no impact on the budget. Only minimal fees for getting contract completed and set up.
- Need to appoint a Community Power Committee as long as it follows the town committee rules.
- Bob Hayden and Patrick Roche are the contacts.
- Next deadline would be to get a town warrant to approve a community warrant.
- Possibly send out the survey thru town groups such as taxpayer, democrats, republicans, groups etc.
- Standard Power will help with templates and help us get it in line for March meeting.
- No cancelation fees. You can move in and out of the program easily.
- Net-metering customers could sell their RECs to the program.
- If the program fails the plan members will automatically transfer to Eversource.
- Law requires 2 public sessions/hearings before commencement.
- Standard Power shall provide us a more detailed timeline.
- They get paid by the rate not directly by the town. If the plan is not approved town does not have to pay. (9/6)
- Daryl will send the information and schedule to Paul so we can move it forward. (11/1)

- **Transfer Station Solar**

- Towns new electrical contract is \$0.06 per kW rather than the \$0.09 per kW paybacks were calculated under. (10/5)
- It will currently not be feasible with the current energy contract due current reduced costs. (11/2)
- Set aside for two years until the expiration of the third-party energy contract. Need to re-examine September 2022. (12/7)
- Hold until August 2022 (2/15)
- The rate schedule has not been provided yet. (4/5)
- Look into extending 3-phase power up old coach road. (6/7)
- Possibly look at battery storage. (6/7)
- RCN to check with Electrical about it again. (7/12)
- Still awaiting a municipal electrical rate (8/2)
- Roger to reach out to Granite State again to look at the possible current costs. (8/2)
- Granite State is interested in it but need investors. 30% rebate has been extended until 2030. (11/1)
- **Commercial Solar Generation Installation**
  - Ryan and Lee attended the meeting and will issue notes (11/2)
    - Need to provide notes on our thoughts for each ordinance
    - Next meeting is the 23rd.
  - We will restart and revisit in late January 2022. (12/7)
  - We will start up again in April 2022. (2/15)
  - On Hold (4/5)
  - On Hold (11/1)
- **Municipal Cable**
  - Comcast showed up at Selectmen's meeting to provide pitch as to why we should stay with them and discussed a joint effort with town, comcast and federal monies. (11/2)
  - Comcast says we should have our proposal prepared for when the monies are released. (11/2)
  - Comcast serves 2900 structures. Currently we have about 3000 structures in town. (11/2)
  - Found a few houses Scobi and Leach hill where the houses are further then ½ mile from the road. (11/2)
  - Trying to get consolidated to the table to discuss offers since they are talking about getting fiber into the state thru-out. (11/2)
  - David L. is going to put a request in the paper for residents to tell the town if they do not have access to broadband. (11/2)
  - We got all of Comcasts information and are awaiting Consolidated to come to meeting. (12/7)
  - The cell density survey company is coming in on the January 24th to discuss at the broadband meter. (12/7)
  - January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting attended by Bill, Susan, and Ryan and discussed possible data collection ideas. (2/15)
  - Have a table at voting night Susan will ask Nyquist if we can get a table. (2/15)
  - Survey Monkey Questions (to be run by Jennifer) (2/15)

- Address
  - Current Provider If not comcast
  - 1-10 Satisfaction Scale on Service
  - Remarks
- Survey Monkey results so far are 75 responses. (4/ 5)
- ARPA funds to pay for a mailing ask Jennifer. (4/5)
- Consolidated is going to have a meeting with (Broadband Commission) before the selectman. (5/3)
- The survey didn't gather too much we are going to cancel (5/3)
- Put a note in the paper requesting if people have feedback for broadband access. (5/3)
- Consolidated was going to hold off until federal funding is decided. Last word is \$50m for the state. (6/7)
- Look at possibilities of wireless Broadband (T-Mobile) (7/13)
- Look into Comcast services. (7/13)
- Waiting on responses from Fidium (8/2)
- Consolidated has provided dates for a meeting. (9/6)
- EC Fiber Coop Broadband need to talk to them and see how the bond would happen. (9/6)
- Comcast will talk once we (9/6)
- Consolidated meeting says that they are not extending to New Boston at this time. (10/4)
- We should get Comcast back out here. (10/4)
- CCI is out, Starlink is Out, Comcast is the remaining option waiting on funding. (11/1)
- **Library HVAC Plans**
  - Narrative for library about replacing HVAC with Heat Pumps. (10/5)
  - New equipment selected both full replacement and LEV Kit. (11/2)
  - Bill will reach out to me about having a meeting on heat pumps and discussing the options. (11/2)
  - Possible new addition in the future in the building. Could size the heat pump to accommodate. (11/2)
  - Provided them selections from both vendors (12/7)
  - Waiting for a meeting invite to discuss. (12/7)
  - Reconnect with the library (6/7)
  - Roger and Ryan had a meeting with the library and discussed possibilities. (8/2)
  - RCN gave estimates and Library has been gathering proposals. (11/1)
- **Electrical Rate Contract**
  - Waiting on the rates for the new contract (5/3)
  - Bill is going to check (5/3)
  - Still waiting on the rate. (6/7)
  - 22 cents production rate was approved temporarily until January. (7/12)
  - Waiting on the Town Rate new rate may make it viable. (7/12)
  - Rate is \$0.1645 per kW for 12/12/22 to 11/8/24 (11/1)
- **New Boston Central School**
  - Discussion about potential and needed upgrades at the school including:

- Boilers
  - Ground Mount Solar
  - Air Handlers
- **Building Energy Audits**
  - Need to update our 2011 audits with current recommendations. (10/4)
  - RCN will find out where they are and do quick pass thru to clear what has been done. (11/1)
- **Rec Building**
  - Need Load Calcs (11/1)
  - Currently Oil Fired (11/1)
  - Want Split Heat Pumps Central Cassettes (11/1)
- **NBCS**
  - Roger to check on what if any funding is left for ESSER Funding. (11/1)
  - Funding needs to be spent by December 2023 (to be checked) (11/1)
- **Master Plan**
  - Update the potential equipment's replacement in the Master Plan (10/1)
  - Updating the grids and matrix with updates etc. (10/1)

### New Business

- Funds Needed for Next Year Donna to request money from the Budget Committee
  - \$450 for ads
  - \$600 for direct mailings
- Standard Power Meeting
  - Goal is to consider community power plan at town meeting
    - We will need a warrant article for the meeting
    - Standard Power will provide us a draft warrant article.
  - The plan will be available online for review by public
  - Default utility is opt-out if 3<sup>rd</sup> party upon expiration of contract they will default into the lower rate
  - Solar PV will be as good or better than the utility as per buyback for over production.
  - No effect on town budget
  - Need to do two open public meetings
  - Possibility of a side fund and need to determine what we need to do with it.
  - Deliberative Session is 2/6. CPAC Chair shall present the warrant etc.
  - Need to disseminate web page and materials and survey from Standard Power.
  - Reserve a ¼ page ad tomorrow. (Donna)
  - Need motion to create the "Community Power Committee" Based on the Energy Commission
  - Attend the Dec 19<sup>th</sup> Meeting and Daryl will Present to the planning Board. (Daryl)
  - Keene's plan has been approved and 3 more shall be approved before we have the January meeting.
  - Town Administrator needs to confirm that the roles are appropriate for the town government setup.
  - **Two Official Public Hearings** in January. Possibly one on Sunday afternoon at the library and one in the evening at town hall.

- Library Meeting on 1/15/22 2PM, Library January 17,2023
  - Donna shall confirm what is the minimum required days' notice.
- Donna shall share the draft agreement with the Select Board for review.
- EC/CPAC shall meet for initial CPAC Meeting December 20 at 630.
- 2.5-3 cents typical savings currently 7 cents savings per kWh.
- Daryl to be the Chairman of the new CPAC committee.
- Publish the draft plan on January 1<sup>st</sup> after approval on the 20<sup>th</sup> for public review.
- Daryl to inform the selectman and Town Manager about the publishing the survey.
- Standard Power to pay for the Beacon Ad.
- Next Meeting is at the Town Hall at **6:30 PM** on **January 17, 2023**