

Town of Exeter Energy Committee

DRAFT MINUTES

June 12th, 2024; 3:30 PM
Wheelwright Room, Town Offices

1. Call to Order 3:35 Attendees: Amy Farnham (acting chair), Mark Lemos, Stephanie Marshall, Renay Allen, Julie Gilman, Kristen Murphy and two guests. Mike Drunsic visiting meeting with possibility of joining Energy Committee. Carol Schutte- Hampton Falls They launched Community Power there and also HVAC upgrade for buildings.
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes - Minutes of May 8, 2024 meeting MOTION to approve. (*Attachment – May 8 Minutes*) *Stephanie moved, Julie second. Approved*
4. Exeter WindowDresser program update (Stephanie, Amy, Mark, Kristen)
 - General update - Looking for Volunteers for Measuring in people's homes. Julie asks questions re Events. Ryan Jean said he'd bring it up at ReVision energy meeting. Could get some volunteers from High School to help out, though they would have to be accompanied by an adult as Measurers go into people's homes. Dave Sharples asks about the pitch and the R value of the inserts.
 - Grassroots Grant status – (no word as of 6/6/24)
 - Signup / Marketing for inserts & volunteers (Alewife, Unitil EV event, Independence Festival)
5. Transfer Station Solar Array Project Update – Dave Sharples. Installation of the solar array has begun. About 20-30% of the panels are up. Should be done in 1 year. Hardware will be up by August, but need transformers which need 9-12 months lead time. ITC will help to cover expenses. Benefit for the town is that the municipality will offset 92% of usage. Town interview with Dave is available.
6. Exeter EV charging stations – getting cost estimates for potential CIP project; Next steps. Talked about putting in the CIP, but need to have cost estimates on these for 2026. Price could be TBD Submitted two locations to Scott VOgel. Water Street parking lot and Senior Center parking lot discussed. Next steps: Need to get a plan to apply and should be gathering information now for the summer/fall timeframe. Action: Need to get specifics of priority sites, needs there, professional quote- see if can get James Penfold,here. **Kristen and Amy will look at it.** July 12 is the deadline for getting a quote.
7. Grant Opportunity: NH-DOE [Municipal Solar System Grant Assistance Program](#). Application deadline: noon, August 1. Solar for new Parks & Rec Building? - Kristen Clean Energy NH representative Katrin reached out to see if Exeter is interested in additional solar. Katrin will come to talk with Town about the possibility- **Dave and Kristen will meet with them.**
8. EHS update: Abby Manning / Dani Caron – Group sent letters to School Board about things that school can do for energy efficiency - “Low mow” lawn and also letters to Senators that High School is active in the Community. They are planning to team up with other Seacoast Environmental Groups. In fall they want to get more trees planted around the school, in an area that is getting salt run off. Tree Committee came to present to the Environmental Club.
9. Community Power update
 - Request from Kingston Energy Committee (Rick Russman) to attend meeting on 6/20 to assist their startup effort. Cliff Plans to attend; others welcome;
 - CPCNH to establish new rates for July-Dec on June 27; Going forward, towns will have option to establish new ‘local rate tier’ to fund discretionary projects. (*See Attached CPCNH memo*)

- Opt-up Video tutorial – Amy. Some problems with blurring out personal image of bill. Bob Glowacky may be able to help.
- Seacoast Green Challenge (municipal opt-up competition) – no update yet

8. Fall Energy Committee EV Event (National Drive Electric Week: Sept 27 – Oct 6)

- Choose our date (Sept 28 or 29; Oct 5 or 6) Amy will ask **Kristen** to reserve the front of Town Hall. Renay suggests Sunday morning. **Committee members suggest September 29.** Cliff will register with Drive Electric week.
- Recruit volunteer(s) to organize event (Cliff will be one); Renay has provided event planning worksheet and date planner (*see Attached How-To doc*) to help with the hand off

9. Other Business / Followup

- a. All Boards meeting June 25th at 6:30 PM. Pam McElroy sent email (see this)
- Host a NH Saves Button Up Workshop in the Fall? Renay says there is a video of NH Saves Button Up Workshop on our website.
- Other - Julie suggests we focus on tightening up existing windows.
- Renay will write in for formal resignation as of August 1.
- Dave Sharples that warrant article amended at Deliberative Session for police station to be net zero. Dave reports that's going to be a challenge due to the size of the building and the 24 hour time that it is open. He wants to let us know that it will be hard to do. Amy suggests that town overbuild solar array at the Rec Building, to make up for the difference for the police station.

10. Agenda items for next meeting (July 12th)

11. Adjourn Motion Renay moves and Julie seconds/unanimous vote at 4:30