

Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2022

ATTENDANCE in person Charlie Clark, Gary Hutchins, Wendell Smith, Jo-Ellen Courtney, Kim Quirk Via Zoom: Marta Ceroni

Minutes from February approved unanimously.

Community Power Warrant Articles– We were contacted by Canaan’s energy committee about their interest in joining CPCNH. We provided them contact info so they can explore a Canaan Community Power Plan.

Marta is working on a one sheet flyer about the Enfield Community Power for handing out at Town Meeting on April 30.

Kim is prepared to provide a 2-3 minute intro – will send a copy to Marta to get some of those words into the handout. Marta will get the handout to us by Thursday. Everyone should provide feedback and we expect to give final approval at our meeting on the 26th of April.

Plainfield’s Town Meeting approved their Energy Community Plan.

Net Zero Building Discussion

Net-Zero energy requires a building that is very well insulated and air sealed and then a commitment to offset the energy use with renewables. Gary recommended that we make a statement as an energy committee, especially in light of two municipal building projects that are on the warrant for town meeting this year.

There are two public hearings on the 4th of April about renovating Whitney Hall and the new Police Fire Safety Building. We encourage people to join the meeting and speak up for efficiency since we don’t yet have a more formal committee recommendation.

If anyone on the committee would like to craft a statement, then we can start that discussion at a future committee meeting.

DPW

It will be May before NH Saves starts up their program again.

Cover had a program to build plastic inserts for windows.

Charlie Clark provides a solar update to the Town Manager every month. Charlie is discouraged about the loss of production in the winter due to snow on the panels and has been brainstorming about ways to remove it.

One issue is that the panels don't belong to the Town of Enfield, as this is a Purchase Power Agreement and the owner/investor would have to agree to any ideas about snow removal. The owner/investor has agreed to allow Norwich Technologies to test a coating on the panels that allows the snow to shed more quickly. Sounds like a pretty good solution. Charlie shared a photo of the panels.

Upcoming events/items of Interest:

NH Network, Environment Energy and Climate is presenting a webinar "Is Net Zero by 2050 possible?" to be held on March 28 via zoom.

Jo-Ellen viewed the recent program of NH Network "Update on the 2022 NH Climate Assessment", which she thought was good. She will share a link to the recording.

NH Clean Energy announced NH Energy week, April 11-15. Look on their website for details of online sessions you can attend. CleanEnergyNH.org

Jo-Ellen offered to write up a quick note on the upcoming Warrant Article (where to get the full document for review and how to ask questions), and something about non-idling, saving money at the pump for the next Town Newsletter.

Adjourned at 7:05pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Quirk