

Hopkinton Energy Committee

Draft Public Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 26, 2023

Call to Order

Committee Chair Cleve Kapala called the meeting to Order at 6 PM

Members physically present: Cleve Kapala, Steve Eckberg, Sharon Nall, Ken Traum, Jack Ruderman

Members participating remotely: Mark Zankel, Lynn Durand

Members absent: Sarah Hoffman

No members of the Public were in attendance

Approval of September 28, 2023 Minutes

Minutes approved with corrected date and twice replacing the word “rebates” in the final bullet under Other Discussions with the word “revenues”.

Moved by Ken Traum and seconded by Sharon Nall, passed after a roll call vote with 6 yes and Steve Eckberg abstaining.

Follow Up Items

The review of the Committee Charge was delayed in order to provide more time for Steve Eckberg to review it.

Ken Traum reported on the discussion at the joint Select/School Board meeting on the potential for collaboration between the Town and Schools on a future RFP for energy efficiency and generation. The school will keep us updated as they continue to explore options.

Since Sarah Hoffman missed the meeting, any discussion on solar PPA updates was delayed until the Committee’s next meeting.

Per Neal Cass, an energy audit of Town facilities will take place in January, 2024.

Ken Traum reported that since the Option for the solar array at the Transfer Station is expiring in November, representatives of the Towns' Select Boards and Administrators plan to meet with Representatives of the company.

The NH Energy Expo was held the other weekend, but unfortunately no one from the Committee was able to attend.

Mark Zankel explained that Towns in the Community Power Coalition can participate in group net metering opportunities.

Cleve Kapala referred to a newspaper article from a Wyoming paper claiming that renewables are increasing costs to ratepayers. Discussion ensued about similar concerns in NH and reference to a NHDOE study that showed the value of net metering.

Public Comments

There were none.

Next Meeting

The Committee voted to skip a November meeting and scheduled the next meeting for Thursday, December 14 at 6 PM at Town Hall.

Adjournment

A Motion to adjourn was made by Cleve Kapala, seconded by Sharon Nall and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.