

December 21, 2023

Energy Committee December 2, 2023, Meeting Minutes

Barrington, N.H. Town Hall

In attendance: Paul Panish, Rob Gibson, Cynthia Hoisington, Jack Bingham, Doug Bogen, Dan Federico

Guests: Jim Anderson

Absent: Leah Harrington, Matt Towne

OLD BUSINESS and UPDATES

Meeting Start time: 7:05 pm

1. Paul Panish called the meeting to order.
2. Minutes from Dec 7- will be reviewed at next meeting
3. Web Updates- Text for announcement that Select board approved plan has been shared
 - a. To be added to web
4. Select Board and Advisory Budget Committee joint meeting updates (Rob)
 - a. Energy Committee Capital Reserve – select board voted to allocate \$5,000 from discretionary incident fund (vs warrant as it's not specific enough)
5. Community Power
 - a. Timing concern for June enrollment, would need all docs submitted by April.
 - i. Voting in March, then SB to approve documents- submit in advance for quicker turnaround
 - b. Updated rates coming- affected by competition, renewables
 - c. Select Board meets a week after election (3/18/2024)
 - i. Need Approval/Signatures of policies statements and documents –
 - d. Plan is to have all towns submit to the PUC at the same time
 - e. Education for residents
 - i. Separate Town mailing- need funds
 - ii. Town voter guide- Objective and subjective

1. Committee can submit something ASAP Dec 31- needs to be concise
 2. Committee Moved, and unanimously voted to approve Paul to draft for Select board then reviewed by committee before submission
- iii. Foster's article – opinion vs press release (objective)- could do both
6. Town Hall Solar Proposal
 - a. RFP Review- where/how to submit. To be sent out tomorrow.
 - b. Multiple bids expected. Potential for ARPA funds or grants
 - c. Schedule- Feb 2 Energy Committee Mtg, Feb 13 Select board meeting to discuss and then likely vote at following
7. NEW BUSINESS and ACTION ITEMS
8. Residential EV Charging Code Change Discussion.
 - a. Provisions for homes- may be better fit for Barrington
 - i. Update to building code? Design features vs safety. Money savings.
 - ii. Incentivized vs requirement? Add to info sheet to create awareness
 - b. Only Lebanon and Dover currently have ordinances- parking
 - c. How many residents have EV?
 - d. Police/fire fleet upgrades?
9. New projects to think about
 - a. School projects through SAU and school board– addition potential, leasing program for buses
 - b. Weatherization – CAP
 - c. Other Municipal project involvement
10. Town report- need summary of activities from energy committee from past year
11. Website tracking- what is traffic? Pre-populate FAQs to minimize misinformation
12. Meeting adjourned 9:06 p.m.

UPCOMING MEETINGS / EVENTS

- January 4, 7:00PM - Energy Committee Meeting (Tentative)
- January 18, 7:00PM – Energy Committee Meeting – RFP Bidder Questions Review

DRAFT