

Community Power Committee
Walpole, NH
Minutes, November 22, 2021

Paul Looney, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Present were Dennis Marcom and Peggy Pschirrer. Absent were Andrew Dey, Rod Bouchard, Pat Kiniry and Steve Grenier.

Mr. Looney moved the approval of the minutes of November 8. The motion was seconded by Mr. Marcom and approved with one correction.

Announcements: Mr. Looney reported on the recent board meeting of CPCNH.

1. Hudson, NH is joining CPCNH.
2. The Executive Committee has the authority to hire a DC law firm which has ties to a NH law firm. The firm understands that they will be working without payment for some time.
3. The Board presented a budget of \$60-70,00 to hire a parttime person – probably Henry Herndon. They are working with anonymous donations currently.
4. They are waiting on confirmation of their non-profit status.
5. The law firm in DC is writing a cash sharing agreement and funding startup costs. Towns at the beginning of buying power will have a percentage of costs deducted. Towns who join later must pay in a different rate than those who join at the beginning.
6. Net metering will not change. There are many things which could in the future change net metering. Transmission lines are very high voltage which is stepped down for delivering to houses. Steve Grenier has a net in – net out arrangement. Some get rate hanged, give back transmission fees and have smaller return of distribution. Time varying rates that enable the intelligent use of customer energy technologies.

CPCNH will have to come with a rate for electricity and a markup on power to pay for organization. Then a reserve fund will be established. CPCNH will be able to determine Walpole's kilowatt usage.

Liberty has sent Mr. Looney numbers for Walpole of everyone enrolled.

The meeting then concentrated on the Aggregation Agreement recommended by CPCNH. Does Walpole need an energy plan in our Master Plan? Is our purpose less expensive power and renewable choices?

The Committee discussed and approved the following from Page 16 of the aggregation plan:

Walpole Community Power Goals, Objective, and Requirements

Walpole Community Power Objectives

To achieve our policy goals, Walpole Community Power will be guided by the following objectives:

Competitive Rates and expanded choices: Walpole Community Power will only launch if it is able to offer residential default rates that are lower than or competitive with those offered by Liberty, and will additionally offer optional products, such as supply options with higher and lower levels of renewable energy and time-varying rates that enable the intelligent use of customer energy technologies.

Fiscal Stability and Financial Reserves: Walpole Community Power will adopt an energy Risk Management Policy and deposit a portion of revenues into a reserve fund to ensure that the program remains able to offer competitive rates as market prices fluctuate over time – and therefore able to achieve Walpole’s policy goals (such as the development of local energy resources and programs);

Consumer Protections and Public Advocacy: Walpole Community Power will ensure that the contracts entered on behalf of customers are fair and represent the interests of Walpole and the program’s customers at the Legislature and Utility Regulatory Commission on matters pertaining to Community Power, ratepayer protection and the creation of more competitive, efficient, and clean energy market for New Hampshire.

Regional Collaborations: Walpole Community Power will collaborate with municipalities, other community power programs and government agencies to jointly develop cost-effective local renewable generation and storage projects, electric transit fleets, charging corridors and other clean energy infrastructure developments.

Grid Modernization: Walpole Community Power will join other community power programs to advocate for policy, regulations, and infrastructure investment- such as the widespread deployment of interval meters and other Smart Grid infrastructure technology-necessary to enable innovative customer services and the intelligent use of new clean technologies, cost-effective integration of local and regional renewable generation and reliable operation of customer and community owned microgrids and utility’s distribution grid.

(My notes are not clear whether we approved the last two: collaborations and modernization.) The Committee agreed to eliminate the left column labeled Default services on the chart on page 18. The Committee also agreed to eliminate page 19.

It was also agreed that we should adopt an Energy Risk Management Policy and a Financial Reserve Policy.

It was also agreed to meet on November 29, 6:30 pm and invite Henry Herndon to meet with us by zoom at Town Hall.

A second Public Hearing will be held on December 13 at 7:00 pm. The policies approved earlier will become power points.

Please note: Our next meeting is December 8 in Town Hall at 6:30 pm