

WALPOLE POWER COMMITTEE
Committee Minutes
December 22, 2021

Paul Looney, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm on December 22, 2021, in the Selectboard office. Present were Paul Looney, Dennis Marcom, Rod Bouchard, and Peggy Pschirrer. Absent were Steve Grenier, Pat Kiniry and Andrew Dey.

Unfortunately, the copy of the Aggregation Plan was not the most recent one. Jodi Daigle will be asked to correct the copy and resent it to all members.

Mr. Looney's opening statement will be attached to these minutes.

Mr. Looney reported that the State of New York pays less than New Hampshire for electricity. New Hampshire does not have a lot of producers. Liberty is increasing gas costs which will affect our electric bills.

Mr. Bouchard stated that CPCNH will probably not function until 2023. The Committee agreed with the statement. Mr. Marcom asked what are the obstacles? The PUC has defunded New Hampshire Saves. A Department of Energy has been created but committees are not yet functioning. PUC is still operational while it is still to be determined what the role of the Department of Energy is.

Mr. Marcom moved the acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting, Dec. 13, 2021. Mr. Bouchard seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

Mr. Marcom moved to send the corrected copy of the Walpole Aggregation Plan to the Selectboard for their review. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bouchard. The motion was accepted unanimously.

We need to affirm the date we joined CPCNH.

Mr. Looney asked What can Freedom and Standard do for Walpole. Should we talk with each of these companies?

Mr. Bouchard has been talking with Andrea Hodson of Harrisville about Brokers and how they might benefit Walpole.

Brokers put together a group of vendors and then add cost for themselves.

The Selectboard needs to know what the Power Committee has been doing. It is important they understand that the CPC will have a cost for power to which they will add a percentage for their costs plus an add on for a reserve for each member town. As the reserve grows, the Town may use this reserve to either reduce the future rates or to build the Town's own source of power.

The Town uses 26 megawatts of power a year. If at the end of the year we use 28 megawatts, the price is lower and our reserve higher.

Members of CPCNH are not responsible for CPCNH; the relationship is the same as with Standard or Freedom.

Walpole is in the first wave of CPCNH; If we were to join three years from now, our costs would be higher.

California is putting up wind and solar systems. We must remember they have a denser population.

We want more information about the use of batteries. The power generated must equal the power used.

ISNE is buying and selling electricity every fifteen minutes.

The Committee agreed to set January 12 for a Public Meeting and December 30 for the meeting with the Selectboard.

In February, Liberty is increasing costs from 8 to 16 cents.

Mr. Marcom agreed to put frequently asked questions Mr. Bouchard will write, on the Town website.

Peggy Pschirrer