

Town of Walpole
Walpole Power Committee
March 30, 2022

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

Mr. Looney reported on the activities of CPCNH. The Annual Meeting will be held April 21, 2022. Officers will be elected at the Annual Meeting.

The PUC is close to completing its rule making. It should be ready in about two to three months to evaluate our EAP. Mr. Below has written the PUC about the new rules. Eversource is not on board with the new system.

Mr. Looney raised the question of when and whether we should develop an energy policy.

The Committee agreed we should interview Freedom and Standard Electric groups. Mr. Looney will call to arrange those meetings.

Andrew Hudson of Harrisville has a spreadsheet for these two companies.

CPCNH is beginning to look for a vendor. They will need a revolving line of credit – perhaps 4-5 million for all member towns. Payment will be a month after delivering electricity.

CPCNH after speaking with a CA organization learned that CA created a reserve fund for the organization. How much will be needed? Will there be apportion for the towns? We urge the CPCNH to keep things simple.

Mr. Dey commented that looking for money raises need for money as electrical costs become higher.

California started on a smaller scale and had financial backers at the beginning.

An RFP will be presented to the CPCNH Board and a need for \$75,000.

CPCNH has slowed its marketing, in part because of the uncertainty of how the PUC and the Department of Energy will interact.

SHOULD WE HAVE A MUNICIPAL SOLAR PROJECT?

Group net metering for municipalities would save distribution costs.

Mr. Bourchard mentioned Revision Energy is the company the County is working with. Energy costs are about 5 cents per kilowatt.

Where could we build a solar farm in town? Where is their available land? We will need about 5 acres for 5 megawatts.

Is the Recycling area possible? Could we find an intern who would help us find a site? Perhaps an Antioch student? Perhaps the old land fill?

Everyone agreed the committee needs more members. The following people were suggested: Peter Palmiotto (Andrew will call); Chuck Shaw and Dick Hill (Paul will call); Kara Dexter (Peggy will call).

Peggy will call Ben Daviss to ask about the group he organized who wanted to put solar panels on the old land fill. She will also contact Ryan Owens as to whether any land in an easement can be used for solar panels. In addition, we will get in touch with Tom Beaudry who has installed solar panels and Carol Malnati about farmers' costs for electricity.