

Walpole Power Committee
July 27, 2022
Minutes

Paul Looney, Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 pm in the Walpole Selectboard office. Present were Dennis Marcom, Kara Dexter, Andrew Dey and Peggy Pschirrer. Attending by Zoom were Rod Bouchard and Henry Herndon, CPCNH.

Mr. Looney announced the CPCNH Board of directors would meet July 28, 2022; the agenda will include a review of rules issued today, July 27, by the PUC.

The Walpole Electric Aggregation Plan will need to be amended to agree with the new rules and add two attachments. The document has been sent to Jodi Daigle who will update the Walpole EPA for the Committee's review first.

If Walpole chooses to stay with CPHNH once it is in business, CPCNH will hire a load serving supplier. CPCNH can change suppliers as it sees fit and it will be behind the scenes. Liberty will still handle the billing.

Walpole may delegate work to a Broker of its choice; the Broker will find the supplier.

Attachment 9 of Walpole's EAP states what Walpole's area of responsibility is. CPCNH will use an outside auditing firm to assure protection. CPCNH has a standing audit committee.

The question was asked if cost sharing will begin with CPCNH in the fall? Reserve Funds will be set aside for CPCNH first, then with individual towns.

We talked about when we might see lower costs. Henry Herndon replied that Walpole will not launch its program with CPCNH until rates are the same or lower than what we have at the time. Henry was also asked if he foresees CPCNH ever putting up large solar arrays for power generation?

Walpole's revised EAP must be approved by the Walpole Selectboard. Who should be given responsibilities for keeping the contract the Selectboard or Sarah Downing, the Manager of Administration? It should probably be Sarah.

Mr. Bouchard who is working with Freedom Energy said that their rates will go down a year from now. They will have 15 new gas generation plants. The rate of 22 cents per kilowatt will drop to sixteen cents. CPCNH will have an Energy portfolio manager on a contract by September. Individual contracts will begin in February/ March.

Electric Data Interchange (EDI *will have an outline for smart metering*). Standards were set in 1996 so it needs an updating. How will we update our interchange? Gains from updating will be extremely helpful.

Mr. Looney reviewed the meeting with Jude Nuru of Revision energy and the discussion about the landfill site. The Landfill site may not be stable. DES has many controls on landfills and sets requirements for their use.

Rich Kriessle, the Manager of Finance for Walpole has been asked for twelve months of individual invoices from Liberty Utility for the Recycling Center. Mr. Nuru will create a bid for solar panels on the Recycling Center roof.

The Question was asked if we need a Community Net metering program?

Mr. Bouchard talked about money being available to build net meeting.

The Committee discussed a site on Route 12 could be the best site available for the solar field for Community Net metering. Three Phase power could be extended to the property and then to the Industrial Park. Three phase power is also needed by Bensonwood.

The group agreed we need to look for grants for building a solar field. We will contact the Town's consultant for grants. Mr. Bouchard indicated he could email us some grant information as well.

Cheshire County will soon have passed an aggregation plan. It is an opt in plan for individuals. Towns won't have to have a warrant to use the opt in plan.

At our next meeting we will discuss our aggregation Plan, CPCNH, Freedom Energy (Colonial) and Standard Energy.