



TOWN OF NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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DRAFT

ENERGY COMMITTEE – MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, August 9, 2023, **7:00 p.m.**, Tracy Memorial Library

Committee Members Present: Jamie Hess, Lisa Hess, Tim Paradis, David Paradis, Viggo Fish, Robin Rainie-Lobacz.

Committee Members Absent: Peter Vedova

Guests Present: John Ellis, Malcolm Bliss (Kearsarge Energy), Karen Epstein, Rich Epstein

Meeting called to order by Jamie at 7:01 PM.

Brief description of matters discussed and votes taken (if any):

1. Approval of April, May, June, and July meeting minutes: Robin moved to approve the minutes, David seconded. Unanimously approved.

2. Kearsarge Energy Presentation: Malcolm Bliss gave an overview of Kearsarge Energy, the work they do, their approach to solar development, completed projects, and project pipeline. He proposed that the Town of New London join Kearsarge's Group Net Metering program. The terms would be as follows:

- Once Kearsarge's new solar array is in operation, the Town of New London would receive a monthly check for 10% of the sum of its electric bills for the town facilities enrolled in the program. The first payments could begin in 2024.
- New London would need to make a 25-year commitment to purchase as much or more electricity from the grid as it is currently using at the town facilities enrolled in the program. This would preclude energy conservation measures or solar panels at those facilities.
- New London could not claim environmental attributes or clean energy attributes (RECs), and cannot claim it is offsetting its load with clean energy.
- An agreement with Kearsarge Energy would not move New London closer to our clean energy goals, but would provide a monetary benefit.

3. Electric bicycle loan program: Bikes arrived today at 4:00. Jamie reported that some slots are still available and he encouraged those who want to try an e-bike to sign up. Jamie reported that Vital Communities will provide liability waivers for borrowers to sign.

4. New London Community Power: Jamie reported on a recent meeting with the Board of Selectmen. Jamie notified the Selectmen of next steps in the process to launch Community

Power. The Town's Electric aggregation Plan (EAP) was submitted to the Public Utilities Commission for approval on July 21, 2023. The Commission has 60 days to accept the EAP.

5. **'Summer Town Meeting'**: An informal meeting with the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for Friday, August 18, 2023. Jamie encouraged members of the committee to attend the meeting and to be prepared to discuss the potential for a solar installation on the Fire Station roof if the subject is raised.

6. **Subcommittee Reports**: The subcommittees did not meet in the past month.

Viggo Fish motioned to adjourn the meeting. Robin Rainie-Lobacz seconded. Meeting ended at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Viggo Fish

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