



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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DRAFT

ENERGY COMMITTEE – MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, December 4, 2024, **5:30 p.m.**, Kearsarge Professional Development Center

Committee Members Present: Jamie Hess, Tim Paradis, Peter Vedova, David Paradis, Robin Rainie-Lobacz, Viggo Fish, John Ellis

Committee Members Absent: Lisa Hess

Meeting called to order by Jamie at 5:33 PM.

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

1. **Approval of November meeting minutes:** Postponed until the January meeting.
2. **Subcommittee updates:** None
3. **Sunapee Municipal Water Treatment Plant Update:** The Town of Sunapee has issued a Request For Proposals to install a solar panel array at the wastewater treatment plant. If Sunapee moves forward with solar, this could significantly help New London taxpayers as New London pays 2/3 of the plant's operating cost. Sunapee has received two proposals: one from Revision Energy, and one from Santa Energy (Bridgeport, CT). Revision proposes a larger array of 310 Kwh DC at a cost of \$1,010,000 and Santa Energy \$767,000 for 244 Kwh DC. The difference in size is a result of differing estimates of how large an array Eversource will accept, given grid capacity limits. One further update: The Sunapee Selectboard has agreed to join the Community Power Coalition and a Town Meeting vote is scheduled for March.
4. **Update from Board of Selectmen's Meeting:** Jamie Hess attended the November 21 meeting to present the Energy Committee's options for achieving the Town's sustainable energy goals. The three most favorably received options were:
 - (a) Solar on the Fire Station Roof
 - (b) Solar at the Stump Dump (if these two new arrays are added to the two existing ones, our renewable energy content will increase from 40% to about 55%.
 - (c) Participating in a group net metering plan to be offered by the Community Power Coalition. There is a plan to build New Hampshire's largest solar array to date, five megawatts in size. If we support this project by joining the proposed group net metering plan, Community Power will offer us a 10-15% discount on our electric supply rate. One further note from the Selectmen's meeting: The selectmen are considering a contribution of \$20,000 towards the Energy Conservation Capital Reserve Fund.

5. **Action Items:** Tim Paradis will follow up with Fire Chief Jay Lyon regarding the structural plans for the fire station roof so we can provide them to a structural engineer at Granite State Solar. John Ellis will follow up with Revision Energy and/or Norwich Solar to find a possible appraiser to estimate the fair market value of our investor-owned municipal solar arrays. Jamie Hess will follow up with Public Works on their level of interest in acquiring electric mowing equipment and an electric pickup truck.

Tim Paradis motioned to adjourn the meeting. Robin Rainie-Lobacz seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Peter Vedova

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