



TOWN OF
NEW LONDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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ENERGY COMMITTEE – MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: Wednesday, February 4, 2026, 7:00 p.m., Whipple Hall

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

Committee Members Absent: Tim Paradis, Peter Vedova

Committee Alternates Present: John Ellis, Meredith Smith

Guests Present: Tom Hamlin, Beth Williams

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

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

- 1. Approval of January meeting minutes:** Robin motioned to defer approval until March. Viggo seconded. Deferral was approved unanimously.
- 2. Budget Request for Energy Projects Capital Reserve Fund:** Robin reported that at the most recent Selectmen's meeting, the Selectmen voted to increase the appropriation to \$100,000, from the \$80,000 recommended by the Budget Committee. Robin will convey this news to the absent committee members and obtain their feedback if any.
- 3. Update on Stump Dump and Mountain Road solar arrays:** Jamie reported that a quote has come in from Eversource for the utility line extension at the Stump Dump, and the price is quite reasonable. In contrast, the two price quotes we have received so far for 'behind the meter' electrical work are much higher than anticipated. Jamie will continue to solicit quotes from electrical contractors in the hope of getting the price down. Concurrently, Viggo will contact the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services to determine if any federal or state permits are required. Regarding the Mountain Road project, the Committee has learned that infrastructure costs at that site will be comparable to those at the Stump Dump, except for the Eversource utility line extension, which will cost slightly more at Mountain Road. There was a lengthy discussion about the advisability of signing a contract with a solar installer and giving them a deposit before the cost of the solar array has been fully financed. Jamie explained that should the Town decide not to move forward with the project, the deposit is mostly if not fully refundable. Jamie will circulate a sample solar contract so that committee members can examine the language pertaining to deposits and contract cancellation, in order to ensure that there is no undue risk.
- 4. Education & Outreach events for 2026:** Jamie reported that in 2024 the Committee organized several education and outreach events including the Electric Vehicle Expo and the E-Bike Loan Program. He asked if there was any interest in organizing similar events in 2026. Beth Williams (Colby-Sawyer College) announced that the College has scheduled an Earth

Week Environmental Expo for April 23rd and she invited the Energy Committee to participate. It was decided to schedule a meeting of the Education & Outreach Subcommittee to consider these opportunities. No meeting date was chosen at this time.

5. Webpage & Facebook page update: This project was delegated to the Education & Outreach Subcommittee.

6. Other Business:

(a) Robin reported that she has submitted her resignation as Alternate Member Representative to the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire. Jamie thanked Robin for her service, and he announced that Meredith has agreed to serve as Robin's successor.

(b) Meredith reported that the necessary materials to implement C-PACER in New London are ready to submit to the Town Administrator and the Selectmen for their consideration. Jamie agreed to forward those materials to the Town Administrator. C-PACER is the Commercial Property-Assessed Clean Energy and Resiliency program recently enacted by the New Hampshire Legislature.

7. Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 4, 2026, 7:00 pm, Whipple Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Hess

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