

**Town of Boscawen
ENERGY COMMITTEE
Boscawen Municipal Facility
FINAL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, December 19th, 2023 @ 5:30 p.m.**

Members Present: Edward J. Cherian, Jr – Chair, Charles Niebling – Vice Chair, Nate Preisendorfer & Matthew Burdick – Ex-Officio

Members Excused: Gary Tillman

Staff Present: Kellee Jo Easler – Planning and Community Development Director & Katie Phelps – Town Administrator

Chair Cherian opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

PCD Director Easler completed roll call.

Minutes:

Vice Chair Niebling motioned to accept the 11/13/23 draft minutes as presented. Seconded by Mr. Preisendorfer. All in favor. None opposed.

New Business:

Final Review of Electric Aggregation Plan: Chair Cherian said he'd like to finalize the EAP and pass the document to the Select Board. There was a redlined and a clean document provided for review. The most recent revisions were:

- Page 3 – Added the number of meters in Boscawen and amount of usage.
- Page 5 – Public hearing dates added.
- Page 14 – Added the current default rate (prior to 2024 Town Meeting) compared to the Community Power Coalition of NH's rate.
- Page VI – Notes added regarding the two required public hearings.

Chair Cherian asked if the new rate for Unitil would be \$0.09. Vice Chair Niebling said he couldn't remember, but CPCNH would be releasing their rate in January. Chair Cherian said they need to investigate that because if the default rate is going to be lower, the Committee should consider backing out of the deal. Town Administrator Phelps will investigate the penalty.

Chair Cherian provided a draft warrant article that was created by CPCNH. The document has been vetted through their legal counsel, but they recommend town counsel also reviews it. This warrant article would then be presented to the Select Board to be brought to 2024 Town Meeting.

A draft submission letter to the Public Utilities Commission was provided. Chair Cherian said it was unclear to him when this letter would be due. Vice Chair Niebling thought it would be soon. Town Administrator Phelps had put this on her calendar. Vice Chair Niebling said tonight's meeting was necessary for the EAP to be on the Select Board agenda for December 21st. The Select Board must vote to accept so the letter may be sent to the PUC. Discussion ensued. Vice Chair Niebling offered to go to the Select Board meeting on the 21st to present the EAP.

Vice Chair Niebling motioned the Energy Committee recommend approval of the Electric Aggregation Plan and to further recommend the Select Board support placing the article on the 2024 Town Meeting Warrant seeking approval from the legislative body for Boscawen Community Power. Seconded by Chair Cherian. All in favor. None opposed.

2024-2025 Proposed Meeting Dates: Vice Chair Niebling suggested pushing the proposed January meeting to February 13th to be closer to Town Meeting. There will be no June, July, or August meetings. All other meetings were tentatively scheduled for the third Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Vice Chair Niebling motioned to approve the following 2024-2025 Energy Committee meeting dates: February 13th, March 19th, tentative May 21st, tentative September 17th, tentative November 19th, and tentative January 21st, 2025. Seconded by Chair Cherian. All in favor. None opposed.

Other Business:

LED Street Lights: Chair Cherian reached out to Affinity. His goal was not only to receive a cost quote to replace the current streetlights, but he hopes they may be able to help walk the town through the Unitil tariff and grant process because they have worked with many municipalities. The first step will be providing the number of streetlights located within Boscawen. A representative has offered to meet with the Energy Committee either in person or via a Teams Meeting and provide a cost estimate at no charge. Chair Cherian also reached out to Clean Energy NH for help navigating the Unitil tariff but received no response. Discussion ensued. Chair Cherian asked what the 2024 budget was for streetlights. Town Administrator Phelps said she didn't have those numbers yet.

Vice Chair Niebling motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Chair Cherian. All in favor. None opposed.

Next Meeting: February 13th, 2024 @ 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kara Gallagher.