



TOWN OF HUDSON

Sustainability Committee

Minutes



Debra Putnam, Chairman Sustainability Brett Gagnon, Selectmen Liaison

Town Hall, 12 School, Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-886-6018 • Fax: 603-594-1143

September 30, 2021 – 7PM

Hudson Town Hall - 12 School St., Hudson, NH 03051

Community Development (Buxton) Meeting Room

- 1. Call to Order: 7:00pm 9/30/2021**
- 2. Attendance:** Debra Putnam, Kate Messner, Sarah Repeta, Jennifer Stone-Grimaldi, Ed Thompson and Craig Putnam
- 3. Public Input:** none
- 4. Presentation by Freedom Energy Logistics -Community Power Aggregation**

Q: I think the town will be looking for a package where that the Town does not have to hire people to run this program. We want to work with a group that can supply the services to compliment the electrical rates.

A: What we are able to provide is really turnkey services. Really the nuts to bolts from what is necessary, like from a regulatory and statutory perspective but also what you are looking for and need in terms of meeting your own goals. One thing we take pride in is that there is a bunch of stuff that has to happen behind the scenes with the suppliers that you are considering and working with over time, a lot of interactions with the residents and businesses lots of questions come up we try to handle all of that for you so that its not taxing on the community. We would be with you from the beginning of the process from when you start to ramp up and educate people as well as once the contract is signed and people have questions we answer them.

No town taxes or resources are used, its really you are the management and we are the workforce

Q: I thought I heard you say that just in the beginning you only did municipal power but we are talking about retail.

A: We only do municipal aggregation, its exactly what you are talking about here residential, commercial, industrial, all the meters in town, not just the municipal buildings.

Q: So you basically working like my broker but for 30,000 people.

A: Yes that's right. And in large part what any of the aggregation programs are doing is they are mimicking what the commercial and industrial customers have enjoyed for a couple decades now and employ the same strategies, buying at the right time and making sure you get the best terms. Strategic buying in the long term. Economy sounds like it is #1 for the town of Hudson. You can offer multiple products; a standard plan with lowest rate, a mid plan with more renewable energy so that they meet RPS and another at 100% renewable energy

Q: What is RPS?

A: Renewable Portfolio Standard- Meaning that is the renewable portfolio standard, its nothing more than renewable energy certificates, there's a minimum that everyone has to buy in NH to meet that standard.

For commercial end users its around \$0.01, 1.2cents per kilowatt hour.
But again, aggregation is about choice and decision and we can tailor this to exactly what you want.

Q: With the Opt Out when can people opt out of the program? Anytime? How do you keep people from opting out when the Eversource rate is lower?

A: Yes they can opt out of the program at any time. And you don't, if they want to play it, there is no harm and no foul. We have people that every 6 months, when the rates change in MA, that will literally change as needed.

Q: Just to be clear there is no penalty and also opt in at any time with no penalty.

A: Correct no penalty or opting in or out. The percentage is very low approx. 12 people for 12000 meters.

Q: How do you see yourself helping if Hudson wants to add a solar array on a closed landfill sight? What can you bring to the table to help with that and how would that work.

A: One of the things we are working on in MA, and we've got a head start up in NH, Mark and I have been talking with a lot of solar developers over the last couple years and there's a program in MA, but there's some things we are leveraging there that we can bring up north. We can connect solar developers to low income- solar developer can earn some incentive money if they focus their output on lower income customers. We can work with legislators on what may be needed in bills or even waivers to allow things like more solar developers to get to work like creating a solar array somewhere in the town.

Q: My understanding is that there is a fair amount of tweaking and tying up of bows with the NH legislation that just passed.

A: Correct, we don't have any of that regulatory infrastructure in place because of the massive changes at the state level. They will come out of that and they have done a lot of work, I will say, in the past but the new bill does require them to put the infrastructure in place.

Q: If we went with you folks, are we contacting Colonial or Freedom?

A: We partner together but you would call and contact Colonial Power. We will be the point of contact all the time.

Q: What happens when the power goes out? Who would we contact?

A: It works exactly how it does now, any issues with outages billing etc you would call Eversource. Your bill comes through Eversource, still only one bill from Eversource just one line on the bill changes.

Q: For Smart metering and time of use pricing, that requires Eversource to play ball.

A: It requires them to get a capital expense to allow them to put a smart meter on and it would require a tariff change on Eversource side. Colonial and Freedom would not be able to make that happen by themselves.

Q: How do you guys make money?

A: Our fee is .001. So this shows up on your bill if power is \$0.07 per kilowatt hour it would show as \$0.071, you pay Eversource, Eversource pays the suppliers and the suppliers pay us. There is no upfront cost while you are working with us (Colonial and Freedom).

Q: What is the process with moving forward with Colonial and Freedom?

A: We have a contract that we can give to you or a town solicitor so you can see. If you wanted to do an MOU or a letter of intent we are more than happy to sign that as well.

5. **Approval of Minutes:** August 23, 2021 Minutes – Sarah Repeta (to be released by Tues. Sept. 28) Craig Putnam motions to accept the minutes from the August meeting. Ed Thompson seconds the motion. All members are unanimously in favor.
6. **Reports:**
- **Trash-Recycling Tonnage Report:** Debbie Putnam reports are tonnage rates of approx. 23% are about normal. We will be entering into a new contract with a new recycling company. Hudson Sustainability can tour new facility once new contract complete
 - **Expenditure Report:** August - Expenditure Report (included in the Packet). Posting of Office supplier \$95.51 in relation to Old Home Days, correction- this expense is to be changed to printing related expense- D. Putnam
 - **Energy Conservation Report:**
 - We have an extra ticket to the **LES (Local Energy Solution) Conference** for 10/8 all day. We will need to know at least 2 days in advance if someone would like to join
 - 10/1/21 Craig attending the CPCNH (Community Power Coalition of NH) Incorporation Board meeting as a member of the public. It will be their first official day.
 - 9/29/21- Craig met with Doria Brown- she is Energy Manager for City of Nashua about power aggregation and to better understand the municipal aggregation for Hudson
 - **Interim Meeting** – Vote needed to have a meeting solely to discuss Community Power Aggregation– which entity to recommend to the BOS? Dates available - meeting room in Town Hall- Oct 7 and **Oct 14**. Oct. 14 is preferable as it is after the LES Conference. (Quorum Required for the Interim meeting) This is in preparation for presentation to BOS on Oct. 26
 - Ed Thompson motions to hold interim meeting on 10/14/21 at 7pm. Craig Putnam seconds the motion. All members are unanimously in favor.
 - **NHSaves – Button Up NH** – September 29 – Free to all NH residents – Zoom link – D. Putnam
7. **Hudson Transfer Station: The next two upcoming dates are October 9 and 30 (8:00am-12:00pm) 2021 Transfer Station Pass Needed - 3 free per year per household, one pass needed for each drop off. Passes may be picked up only at the DPW offices Monday through Thursday 6am – 4pm, 2 Constitution Drive, Hudson. The Transfer Station will be open each Saturday for yard waste, metal and cardboard drop-offs 8am-12noon through November.**
8. **Household Hazardous Waste Collection: Saturday October 2, 8:00AM-12:00PM**
At Nashua City Park & Ride, 25 Crown Street, Nashua Cost--\$15 user fee per vehicle, additional charges for quantities exceeding 10 gallons or 20 pounds. No Latex Paint, No Electronics, No Medications. For more information and a complete list of accepted items, please visit: nashuarpc.org/hhw or call 603-417-6570. Important Note: There will only be one more chance on November 6 to get toxic substances out of your home/basement and garage before winter sets in!
9. **Roadside Cleanups** – S. Repeta will address at he regularly scheduled October meeting
10. **Committee Member & Selectman Liaison Comments:** None

11. Adjourned: 8:57pm

- Ed Thompson makes a motion to adjourn. Kate Messner seconds. Motion is accepted unanimously.

Sarah Repeta

Hudson Sustainability Committee, Secretary

10/18/21