



TOWN OF HUDSON

Sustainability Committee

Minutes



Submitted by Edward Thompson, Sustainability Committee

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Oct. 24, 2022– 7PM

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

Community Development (Buxton) Meeting Room

1. **Call to Order at 7:00 pm.**
2. **Attendance taken:** Members present: Chairman Debra Putnam, Craig Putnam, Kate Messner, Ed Thompson, and Selectman Laison Brett Gagnon. Absent were Jen Jennifer Stone-Grimaldi and Cory Boutin.
3. **Public Input:** There was no one present from the public.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** (included in the Packet) by Debra Putnam
July 25, 2022, Motion was made by Craig Putnam 2nd by Kate Messner, Motion passed unanimously.
Sept. 8, 2022, Motion was made by Craig Putnam 2nd by Ed Thompson Motion passed unanimously.
5. **Reports:**
 - **Trash-Recycling Tonnage Report:** Presented by Chairman Putman (was included in the Packet). The recycling Tonnage total for each month (August and September) was at 23.90% of the total Tonnage of waste for the town.
 - **Expenditure Report:** Presented by Chairman Putman (was included in the Packet). Balance available stands at \$1056.91. Reminder: Fiscal year ends June 2023.
6. **Hudson Transfer Station:** Chairman Putnam informed the committee and the public of the next two upcoming dates are Saturday - October 29th, and November 12th (8:00am-12:00pm). The last two dates of the year will be November 26th and December 31!

The Transfer Station is open each Saturday for yard waste, metal & cardboard drop-offs 8am-12noon **only through November 26**. It will be open again in April of 2023 on Saturdays for yard waste, metal & cardboard drop-offs 8am-12noon.

Through December 31, a 2022 Transfer Station Pass is Needed - 3 free per year per household, one pass needed for each drop off. Passes may be picked up at the DPW offices. DPW offices are open Monday – Thursday 6am – 4pm until Monday, December 5th. **On December 5, DPW offices will go to winter hours: 8am-4pm Monday-Friday** 2 Constitution Drive, Hudson.

Public is urged to only place clean and allowable items in blue bins. Please follow the 2022 Residential Recycling & Solid Waste Services Guide on this link:

https://www.hudsonnh.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/public_works/page/149/new_brochure_2022.pdf

If residents have a lot of cardboard box material, please cut up and take to the transfer station on Saturday morning instead of putting into the blue bins. This saves Hudson taxpayers money on sorting labor.

7. **Hazardous Waste Collections:** Chairman Putnam informed of the hazmat event will be held in Nashua on Saturday, Nov. 5, 2022, 8:00am-12:00noon at the Nashua City Park and Ride, 25 Crown Street, Nashua. Residents of Hudson are welcome. No Latex paint, No Electronics, No Medications. Cost--\$15 user fee per vehicle, additional charges for quantities exceeding 10 gallons or 20 pounds. Cash and Checks accepted. For more information and a complete list of accepted items, please visit:
www.nashuarpc.org/energy_environment/household_hazardous_waste_collections/index.php
8. **HEAC Report:** Craig Putnam updated members on all matters connected with the Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee. Look for the HEAC blue rectangle on the Sustainability Committee home page on the Hudson Town website. The link will bring residents to pages of information about Electric Aggregation. The primary goal is to reduce electricity bills for homeowners and small businesses throughout Hudson.

Craig reported on the “workshop” with the BOS that was held on October 4th. Craig and Henry Herndon presented. Kate Messner was also present. The goal was to review the Electric Aggregation Plan and propose the text that would be put into a warrant article. There was resistance from the BOS on the “opt out” nature of the plan. Board members asked several questions including: Is there data on the success rate of programs that have “opt in” programs and what percentage of Eversource customers would be needed for an “opt in” program to work? C. Putnam explained that data for “opt in” programs may not exist because these types of electric aggregation plans are always “opt out” programs. The BOS did not take a vote. Instead, C. Putnam and H. Herndon said they would see if they could try to answer the questions raised and get back to the board. Craig told the Sustainability Committee that he would reach out to the BOS and Town administrator now that he’s had feedback from Clifton Below, the Board Chair of Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire.

Craig and Kate also reported on information gathered at the recent Local Energy Solutions Conference in Manchester, NH.

9. **HEAC - Public Hearing -Tuesday, November 15, 2022, in Buxton Meeting Room:**
C. Putnam explained that this hearing was cancelled as the request of the BOS since they had not voted in favor of the Aggregate Energy Plan. Members discussed Promotional and operational plans. Poster: After reviewing content and formatting of poster, a vote was taken on acceptance of the final version and the expenditure of funds for 8 laminated posters. Motion was made by Ed Thompson to approve the design and to expend funds not to exceed \$400 for the 8 posters, 2nd by Craig Putnam, Motion, passed unanimously.

Get Tech Smart: Craig, Henry Herndon (consultant for CPCNH), and Selectman Gagnon were to be interviewed by Flo Nicolas for her Get Tech Smart show on HCTV (and elsewhere) October 28, 2022, however this was suspended until permission could be granted. Kate would also attend to provide support.

10. **Warrant Article:** Topic of whether to submit a Warrant Article to the BOS for inclusion on the 2023 Ballot was addressed by Chair Putnam. Since over \$47K (this Fund was initiated by Linda Kipnes) and it has already provided seed funding for at least two projects – DPW building – conversion to LED lighting and conversion of Town owned Street Lights to LED. The conversion of the streetlights is saving the residents over \$80,000/year in electricity fees.
Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund Funding: Shall the Town of Hudson vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 which will be added to the Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund previously established in March 2020?

Since this fund was reported to the Chair that over \$47K still resides in the fund, she suggested that we hold off on putting this Warrant Article forward on the agenda for the Deliberative Session. A motion was made to remove this item from the agenda by K. Messner, 2nd by C. Putnam, motion passed unanimously.

11. **Election of Officers:** Chair position, nominated D. Putnum by K. Messner, 2nd by E. Thompson, Vote passed 4-0 to elect.
Vice-Chair position nominated J. Stone-Grimaldi by Chair Putnum, 2nd by E. Thompson. Vote 4-0 passed to elect.
Secretary position nominated E. Thompson by Chair Putnum, 2nd by K. Messner. Vote 4-0 passed to elect.

“Project Leader” for Roadside Cleanups was suspended until springtime. Chair Putnam thanked the public for Hudson residents for trying to make a difference in keeping neighborhoods picked up of trash.

12. **The next regular meeting** will be held on November 28th the Monday after Thanksgiving. After some discussion, motion was made by E. Thompson to hold the December meeting on December 19th, 2nd by C. Putnam. Motion passed 4-0.

13. Committee Member & Selectman Liaison Comments:

K. Messner spoke further about the Local Energy Solutions Conference she attended. She mentioned that “*data is the currency of the grid*” and data is what the group focuses on. She also explained that 1/3 of CA residents are on community power and that at least NH has put forth new laws that are some of the best in the country.

C. Putnam also said he attended the same conference. Commented on offshore wind benefits that were discussed. He also commented on some of the breakout sessions he attended. Challenges in upgrading the power grid for NH was another topic of discussion.

E. Thompson commented that the average American in USA produces average of 310 lbs of plastic waste per year. The national average for the amount of plastic waste in our country that is recycled is only 5%!

Selectman Gagnon thanked members for the work they do and the time they have committed to the town.

14. **Adjourned:** Motion to adjourn by C. Putnum, 2nd by K. Messner. Passed 4-0.
Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Edward Thompson

Hudson Sustainability Committee, Secretary

Nov 06, 2022