



# TOWN OF HUDSON

## Sustainability Committee Minutes



Debra Putnam, Chairman Sustainability & Bob Guessferd, Selectmen Liaison

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

**September 25, 2023 – 7PM**  
**Community Development (Buxton) Meeting Room**

1. **Call to Order: 7:02pm**
2. **Attendance: Debra Putnam, Bob Guessferd, Craig Putnam, Kate Messner and Chris Thatcher. Ed Thompson excused.**
3. **Public Input: None**
4. **HEAC Report:** Craig Putnam and Kate Messner updated members on all matters connected with the Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee. The HEAC continues to prepare for the Workshop with the BOS scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Electric Aggregation Plan was approved by the Public Utilities Commission on September 18<sup>th</sup>. The approval by the PUC of the EAP is an important step towards the BOS being able to make their decision regarding moving forward with Hudson Community Power and then, which partner to work with.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** August 21, 2023, Minutes – Ed Thompson – (included in the Packet) A few corrections explained. Then vote to approve the August Minutes with corrections: Motion made by Craig Putnam, Seconded by Chris Thatcher, no discussion, unanimous approval.
6. **Reports:**
  - **Trash-Recycling Tonnage Report:** (included in the Packet) 24.66% August
  - **Expenditure Report:** (included in the Packet) One filing for the sidewalk chalk is yet to be submitted and processed totaling- \$20.11. Discussed dollar allocations in the Expenditure Report which will be updated for FY25.
7. **Hudson Transfer Station: It is open two Saturdays each month with the next two Saturdays being: Saturday September 30 and October 14 - 8:00am-12:00noon – 2023 passes will be needed. The Transfer Station is open for yard waste, metal & cardboard drop-offs 8am-12noon on Saturdays – No Pass required! DPW offices are still on the summer hours schedule: 6am-4pm Monday-Thursday 2 Constitution Drive, Hudson.**
8. **Hazardous Waste Collections:** The next two dates are **Saturday, October 7, 2023**, and **Saturday, November 4, 2023 8:00AM-12:00PM**, 25 Crown Street, Nashua  
**Important note: November 4 will be the last Hazardous Waste Collection of this calendar year!**

Cost--\$15 user fee per vehicle (cash or check), additional charges for quantities exceeding 10 gallons or 20 pounds. Carpooling encouraged!

For more information and a complete list of accepted items, please visit:

[www.nashuarpc.org/energy\\_environment/household\\_hazardous\\_waste\\_collections/index.php](http://www.nashuarpc.org/energy_environment/household_hazardous_waste_collections/index.php)

- 9. Clean Energy NH: Municipal Membership** – The Municipal Membership was processed. Confirmation was received September 20, 2023. Information from CENH – See Packet for full content of welcome email from CENH and the Municipal Membership document. Members authorized the Chair to release to CENH the email address they each use for Sustainability Committee matters. Members reached a consensus as to which two members will be attending the Conference: Craig Putnam and Kate Messner.
- 10. Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund:** Discussion focused on whether to revive the Warrant Article on the 2020 and 2022 Town Ballots for the purpose of increasing the Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund so as to enable the Town to benefit from the savings associated with the reduction in energy usage – Electricity, Heating Oil, Gas (through changes to LED lighting, reducing heat loss – window replacements or at least improve insulation (evaluating a building’s thermal losses). The Warrant Article was first presented to voters at the March voting on the 2020 ballot.

The March 2022 Ballot:

Article 17 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. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen 5-0) (Recommended by the Budget Committee 10-1) Tax Rate Impact \$.01 cents

Discussion continued on what projects the funds could be used for and whether having a Warrant Article on the March 2024 ballot would be appropriate. The original text of the Warrant Article will be emailed to all members after this meeting and included in the Packet for the October meeting. More research and information gathering will be done so that the Committee can make a decision at the October 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting as to whether to put forward a Warrant Article for consideration by the BOS no later than the 25<sup>th</sup>.

- 11. Improving the Transfer Station operations:** Information was presented and possible actions were discussed for assisting the Town in “moving forward” on ways to keep items out of the waste stream and ideas on having the Transfer Station generate income to mitigate the operational costs.
- >Swap shop
  - >Composting
  - > Styrofoam processing machine and the selling of the “ingots” generated.
  - >Weight station...charging commercial businesses by the pound.
  - > Diverting cloth items that are at “end of life” from ending up in Trash Bins
  - >Working closely with Alvirne High School staff and students on ways to reduce the amount of certain items going into the trash stream and in some cases repurposing and refinishing items for sale. Also channeling logs and other wood to the Forestry Program and/or the Carpentry/Building classes.

These ideas and more will be discussed over the course of multiple meetings.

- 12. The next meeting** – October 23, 2023 Normal fourth Monday of the month – But Craig and Debbie will be flying home that day. Tentative plan is for Kate Messner to be the Chair for that meeting if Craig and Debbie’s flight is delayed.
- 13. Committee Member & Selectman Liaison Comments:** Bob Guessferd noted that the he and the BOS are looking forward to the Workshop on October 3<sup>rd</sup> – BOS and HEAC.
- 14. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Chris Thatcher and seconded by Kate Messner. No Discussion. Passed by unanimous vote.

*Debra Putnam*

*Hudson Sustainability Committee, Chair    October 16, 2023*