



TOWN OF HUDSON

Sustainability Committee Agenda



Debra Putnam, Chairman Sustainability & Bob Guessferd, Selectmen Liaison

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

October 23, 2023 – 7PM
Community Development (Buxton) Meeting Room

1. **Call to Order:**
2. **Attendance:**
3. **Public Input:**
4. **HEAC Report:** Craig Putnam and Kate Messner updated members on all matters connected with the Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** September 25, 2023, Minutes – Debra Putnam– (included in the Packet)
6. **Reports:**
 - **Trash-Recycling Tonnage Report:** (included in the Packet) 21.55% September
 - **Expenditure Report:** (included in the Packet) The dollar allocations in the Expenditure Report were updated for **FY25**.
7. **Hudson Transfer Station: It is open two Saturdays each month with the next two Saturdays being: Saturday October 28 and November 11 - 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 until the first weekend in December. 2 Constitution Drive, Hudson.**
8. **Hazardous Waste Collections:** The **last** collection for the calendar year will be **Saturday, November 4, 2023 8:00AM-12:00PM, NEW LOCATION - 9 Stadium Drive, Nashua.** 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
9. **Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund:** Discussion on whether to revive the Warrant Article 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 improvements in insulation in connection with evaluating a building’s thermal losses).

The Warrant Article was first presented to voters at the March voting on the 2020 ballot and was approved by voters.

To establish an Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of assessing, designing, and/or implementing energy efficiency projects in town buildings or properties, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be placed in fund. To name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend.

The March 2022 Ballot included a proposed addition to the fund which was approved by voters:

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 to continue on what projects the funds could be used for and whether having a Warrant Article on the March 2024 ballot would be appropriate.

*Does the Sustainability Committee wish to keep a specific balance in the account so that funds are available in the “current year.”

The HPD is focusing on improving the energy efficiency of 4 Constitution Drive. The information received to date indicates that the windows and doors can be replaced probably for less than \$25,000. The project would not be initiated until the later part of 2024 after the main building renovations have been completed.

*An alternative path of action would be to wait to put a Warrant Article in front of voters in 2025 to “replenish” the Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund.

The Committee needs to vote on a decision during this meeting as to whether to put forward a Warrant Article for consideration by the BOS no later than the 25th of October.

Text to be voted on:

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.

- 10. Roadside Cleanups:** There has been a revival in discussions on Hudson, NH Residents Facebook page regarding support of Roadside Cleanups. More than 28 indicated Thumbs up to interest in helping with a Roadside Cleanup. The Committee needs to perhaps plan over the winter to host a Roadside Cleanup after the snow is gone and before the poison ivy pops up. The DPW officially is responsible for Coordinating and staffing the Town Clean-Up events (as stated on the Hudson Town Website) This translates into coordinating with the Sustainability Committee with DPW staff setting orange work signs, providing truck and trailer as was done when a clean up focused on a piece of Wason Rd., and picking up all blue bags and black bags plus other items collected for each Roadside Cleanup. Should the Sustainability Committee host an Earth Day event where Hudson Residents can pick up Blue Bags for Recyclables and Black Trash bags so they can do Roadside Cleanups as they wish to?

11. Reducing the volume and types of items entering the Waste Stream:

Continue discussions regarding 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 with Alvirne High School staff and students on ways to reduce the amount of certain items going into the waste stream and in some cases repurposing and refinishing items for sale.

An idea already proposed - 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. Management of the Sustainability Committee Facebook page.

13. The next meeting – November 27, 2023

14. Committee Member & Selectman Liaison Comments:

15. Adjournment:

Debra Putnam

Hudson Sustainability Committee, Chair October 17, 2023