



TOWN OF HUDSON

Sustainability Committee Agenda



Debra Putnam, Chairman Sustainability Brett Gagnon, Selectmen Liaison

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

Nov. 28, 2022– 7PM

Hudson Town Hall - 12 School St., Hudson, NH 03051
Community Development (Buxton) Meeting Room

1. **Call to Order:**
2. **Attendance:**
3. **Public Input:**
4. **Approval of Minutes: October 24, 2022** (included in the Packet) by Ed Thompson
5. **Reports:**
 - **Trash-Recycling Tonnage Report:** (included in the Packet)
 - **Expenditure Report:** (included in the Packet) Balance was \$1056.91. Expenses for posters and lettering was filed- \$308.02 (expenditure up to \$400.00 had been approved)
6. **Hudson Transfer Station: The last date the Transfer Station will be open is December 31 (8:00am-12:00pm).** The Transfer Station will NOT be open for yard waste, metal & cardboard drop-offs 8am-12noon again until April of 2023.
On December 31 a 2022 Transfer Station Pass is Needed. 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.
7. **Hazardous Waste Collections:** There are no dates scheduled for the rest of 2022.
We expect that the schedule will resume in April of 2023. 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 and Kate Messner to update members on all matters connected with the Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee. The updates will include a review of the Public Hearing. The **draft of the Minutes of the Public Hearing is included in the Packet** for this meeting and will need to be reviewed, edited as needed and then approved by members.
9. **Warrant Article:** Craig Putnam and Kate Messner will review the results of their presentation to the BOS on November 22.
10. **Get Tech Smart:** A recording session has been scheduled for December 5th with Flo Nicolas at the HCTV studio.

11. Roadside Cleanups: Updates and Discussion

12. The next and last meeting of this year will be held on **December 19th**.

13. Committee Member & Selectman Liaison Comments:

14. Adjourned: .

Debbie Putnam

Hudson Sustainability Committee, Chair

November 20, 2022



TOWN OF HUDSON

Sustainability Committee

Minutes



Submitted by Edward Thompson, Sustainability Committee

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

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

DRAFT

Expenditure Report - Including Carry Forward Activity
Sustainability Committee
Town of Hudson, NH
As Of: October 2022, GL Year 2023

Account Number	Budget	Prior Year Encumbered	Budget & PY Adjustments	Net Budget	MTD Exp	YTD Exp	Encumbered	Balance Available	%Used
General Fund									
01-4199-5055-214-000	Sustainability Comm, News Ads								
	420.00	0.00	0.00	420.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	420.00	0.000
01-4199-5055-217-000	Sustainability Comm, Dues and Fees								
	70.00	0.00	0.00	70.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	70.00	0.000
01-4199-5055-241-000	Sustainability Comm, Printing								
	300.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	143.09	0.00	156.91	47.697
01-4199-5055-252-000	Sustainability Comm, Prof. Services								
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00	-100.00	0.000
01-4199-5055-303-000	Sustainability Comm, Office Supplies								
	60.00	0.00	0.00	60.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60.00	0.000
01-4199-5055-340-000	Sustainability Comm, Small Oper Matr								
	450.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	450.00	0.000
Total General Fund									
Selected Year	1,300.00	0.00	0.00	1,300.00	100.00	243.09	0.00	1,056.91	18.699
Prior Year	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000
Sort Total	1,300.00	0.00	0.00	1,300.00	100.00	243.09	0.00	1,056.91	18.699

Run: 11/10/22
8:34AM

Expenditure Report - Including Carry Forward Activity
Sustainability Committee
Town of Hudson, NH
As Of: October 2022, GL Year 2023

Page: 2
bmckee
ReportSortedExpenditure
Sustainability

Account Number	Budget	Prior Year Encumbered	Budget & PY Adjustments	Net Budget	MTD Exp	YTD Exp	Encumbered	Balance Available	%Used
Selected Year	1,300.00	0.00	0.00	1,300.00	100.00	243.09	0.00	1,056.91	18.699
Prior Year	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.000
Grand Total	1,300.00	0.00	0.00	1,300.00	100.00	243.09	0.00	1,056.91	18.699



TOWN OF HUDSON

Sustainability Committee

PUBLIC HEARING



Debra Putnam, Chair Sustainability Brett Gagnon, Selectmen Liaison

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

November 15, 2022– 7PM

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

Community Development (Buxton) Meeting Room

- 1. Call to Order: 7:00pm**
- 2. Present:** Craig Putnam, Henry Herndon, Brett Gagnon, Kate Messner, Paul Inderbitzen, Ed Thompson, and Debra Putnam with fourteen residents in attendance.
- 3. Introduction and Pledge of Allegiance – Debra Putnam, Chair**

The Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee is a subcommittee of the Sustainability Committee. This Public Hearing is the first of at least two to be held in compliance with RSA 53-E as set by the New Hampshire State Legislature.

This Hearing will be hosted by Mr. Craig Putnam, Director of the Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee and Mr. Henry Herndon of the Community Power Coalition of NH.

The Question and Answer session that follows the presentation will be managed by the Hudson Town Moderator - Mr. Paul Inderbitzen.

- 4. Presentation by Mr. Craig Putnam, HEAC and Mr. Henry Herndon, CPCNH**

AGENDA

1. What is Community Power?
2. Your Electric Bill: Supply & Delivery Charges
3. The Electric Aggregation Plan
4. “Opt-out” vs. “Opt-in”
5. Possible Warrant Articles
6. Questions & Discussion

Mr. Brett Gagnon added to the presentation by asking questions. The questions were answered by Craig Putnam and/or Henry Herndon and were effective in helping residents understand certain points and technical jargon.

The complete PowerPoint presentation is available to all residents through the Hudson Town Website:

https://www.hudsonnh.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/sustainability_committee/page/52888/hudson_eap_public_hearing_presentation_11_15_22_final.pdf

5. Questions & Answers: At this point in the evening Moderator, Mr. Paul Inderbitzen invited the residents present (14) to ask questions and comment on the information presented.

Five residents came forward with questions and comments.

- 1. Mr. James Crowley of 4 Fairway Drive:** First noted that the presentation answered a lot of questions he had. Mr. Crowley asked for an explanation as to the threshold of participation needed to be “successful.” Mr. Herndon explained that an OptOut approach is the most successful for a variety of reasons. Mr. Crowley asked valid questions about the procurement of electricity – the frequency of buying with Eversource only buying twice a year. Mr. Crowley expressed support of the purchasing of power more frequently with the leveraging of a large buying base and the green power options available to customers through an entity such as CPCNH.
- 2. Mr. John Drabinowicz of 8 Deerfield Dr.:** Mr. Drabinowicz first asked about what obligations there would be for the Town of Hudson. He went on to seek clarification regarding costs to the Town. It was explained that the costs would be “incidental” – not affecting the tax burden on the residents. An example was given of a brief consultation with the Town Lawyer. Mr. Drabinowicz then explained his support for going forward only with the OpOut Warrant Article. He made important points about getting the BOS and residents behind this initiative as “I can not afford the current rates!”
- 3. Ms. Heidi Jakoby of 94 Gowing Rd.:** Ms. Jacoby noted that she had watched the Workshop with the BOS and that is why she chose to attend the Public Hearing. She immediately focused in on the OptOut Warrant Article praising its wording: “I commend this explanation.” Ms. Jacoby noted that the “OptOut” format is quite common throughout companies, etc. This is what she has experienced. She noted that like those who spoke before her “I cannot afford my electricity anymore either.” “I elected them (BOS) to do what is best for the community.” She noted that the BOS should support the Warrant Article such that it is presented to voters in March so that residents can make the decision as to whether to go forward with Community Power Aggregation.
- 4. Mr. Tim Wyatt of 139 Barretts Hill Rd.:** Mr. Wyatt noted that he was in agreement with the previous residents who spoke. Mr. Wyatt inquired about who pays for printing of bills, etc. – How is that handled? Mr. Herndon explained that should the Town chose to go with CPCNH – CPCNH would pay for the mailings to Eversource customers communicating about the switchover to Hudson Community Power. The residents would still receive their electric bill from Eversource with the wording of one line changing to reflect the new electricity supplier. Mr. Wyatt then asked where would the electricity be purchased from? Mr. Herndon explained about ISO New England – involving 6 New England states. Mr. Herndon gave a brief, simple explanation about the purchasing of power from a large variety of suppliers. Mr. Wyatt then inquired as to whether switching to Community Power Aggregation would affect those residents who have solar arrays. (Mr. Wyatt has a Solar array on his roof). Mr. Herndon explained the current status and the possible additional positive aspects of encouraging even more residents to have a solar array installed on their home/property. Mr. Wyatt then initiated a discussion about the options for partnering in regards to the purchasing of power and the demands on the time of the BOS. Mr. Putnam, Mr. Herndon and Mr. Gagnon all contributed to the sharing of information to address Mr. Wyatt’s valid questions. Mr. Gagnon, Selectman, advised that the workload would mostly be carried by the Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee and then, if the Warrant Article is passed, Hudson Community Power. Mr. Wyatt expressed concern about neighbors being able to pay their bills.

It came out in discussion that the HEAC will be in a Get Tech Smart segment hosted by Flo Nicolas on December 5th at the HCTV studio.

5. **Mr. David Howe of 7 Mission Lane:** Mr. Howe first asked about the time frame that it took for the electricity rate to be increased. Mr. Herndon explained and Mr. Howe noted that “it sounds like it is a really good time to take control (of the electricity rates).” Mr. Howe brought up the fact that the Town and the School System both buy power through separate Aggregation programs. Mrs. Putnam and Mr. Gagnon explained how being participants in Power Aggregation programs have saved the Town and the School System significant funds each year. The Town of Hudson has been involved in such a program for over 10 years. Mrs. Putnam noted that the reason the Sustainability Committee has been focused on Community Power Aggregation is to help all residents save money. Mr. Howe noted that he appreciates Town officials and committees working on saving residents money. He hopes that the Warrant Article that goes in front of the voters is short but understandable to help residents realize the important opportunity.

Closing Statements and Comments:

Mrs. Putnam thanked all who attended the Public Hearing and those residents who will watch the Hearing in the weeks and months to come. She noted that the second Public Hearing is scheduled for January 17 with a snow date of January 19th. Mr. Gagnon thanked all Committee members and Mr. Herndon for their extensive work in bringing Community Power Aggregation before the residents of Hudson. Mr. Gagnon thanked Mr. Herndon for his participation in and contributions to a number of meetings despite the fact that the Town of Hudson has no contract with CPCNH. Mr. Putnam noted a special thanks to all residents who attended the Public Hearing.

Adjourned: Town Moderator, Mr. Inderbitzen closed the hearing at 8:24pm.

Debra Putnam

Hudson Sustainability Committee, Chair

November 18, 2022

Debbie Putnam
Hudson Sustainability Committee, Chair

October 18, 2022