



TOWN OF HUDSON

Sustainability Committee Agenda



Debra Putnam, Chairman Sustainability

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

Jan. 30, 2023– 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:** meeting December 19, 2022 and Public Hearing January 17, 2023 (included in the Packet) by Debra Putnam
5. **Reports:**
 - **Trash-Recycling Tonnage Report:** (included in the Packet) Dec. 23.69%
 - **Expenditure Report:** (included in the Packet) Balance is \$539.52
6. **Hudson Transfer Station:** The Transfer Station will be open **January 28** and **February 25** – 8:00am-12:00noon – 2023 passes will be needed. The Transfer Station will NOT be open for yard waste, metal & cardboard drop-offs 8am-12noon on Saturdays again until April of 2023. DPW offices winter hours are **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 topics covered will be the presentations to local organizations, clubs and one company along with a synopsis of the January 17th Public Hearing. The new logo will be shown on the large screen TV. The new logo has already been uploaded to the HEAC home page on the Hudson Town website.
9. **Office Hours at the Rodgers Memorial Library in Study Room #2** – Discussion as to whether to resume Office Hours. The last Office Hours formerly scheduled was this past Saturday at 10:30am.

**10. Town Deliberative Session on February 4th at the Community Center starting at 9:00am
Town Voting on March 14!
Ward 1 at the Community Center Ward 2 at Alvirne High school.**

11. Button Up NH Workshop – Opportunity to host a Button Up Workshop came through on Jan. 25 through the Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative. The Greater Hudson Chamber of Commerce has agreed to be a sponsor. The date of April 11 is workable as per the schedule for the Rodgers Memorial Library Community Room. Robbin Addams has confirmed that Mr. Ted Stiles will be able to host the Workshop. The committee needs two members to help manage the evening – set up the room by 6:45pm, bring simple refreshments, and reset the room by 9pm when the Library closes.

12. Roadside Cleanups: Looking to spring – Continuation of Wason Rd. Cleanup.

13. The next meeting – February 27, 2023.

14. Committee Member & Selectman Liaison Comments:

15. Adjourned: .

Debbie Putnam

Hudson Sustainability Committee, Chair

January 27, 2023



TOWN OF HUDSON

Sustainability Committee

Minutes - Draft



Debra Putnam, Chairman Sustainability

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

Dec. 19, 2022– 7PM

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

1. **Call to Order: 7:00pm**
2. **Attendance: Debra Putnam, Ed Thompson, Kate Messner and Craig Putnam(voting status at the meeting to meet quorum requirement)**
Membership update: Cory Boutin
Former Selectmen Liaison Brett Gagnon – Resignation and future assignment of a Selectmen Liaison.
3. **Public Input:** none
4. **Approval of Minutes: October 24 and November 28, 2022** by Ed Thompson Motion to accept both Minutes was made by Craig Putnam and seconded by Kate Messner. No edits requested. Unanimous vote to accept.
5. **Reports:**
 - **Trash-Recycling Tonnage Report:** 22.49% for the month of November
 - **Expenditure Report:** Balance was \$1056.91. Expenses for posters and lettering was filed- \$308.02 - regards to promoting the two Public Hearings. These expenses do not show up in the November report. (The expenditure of up to \$400.00 had been approved)
6. **Hudson Transfer Station: The last date in 2022 the Transfer Station will be open is December 31 (8:00am-12:00pm).** On December 31 a 2022 Transfer Station Pass is Needed. The Transfer Station will be open **January 28** and **February 25** – 8:00am-12:00noon – 2023 passes will be needed. The Transfer Station will NOT be open for yard waste, metal & cardboard drop-offs 8am-12noon again until April of 2023.
DPW offices winter hours are **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 updated members and residents on all matters connected with the Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee. The updates included the most recent presentation to the BOS where the text of the Warrant Article to be on the March Ballot was approved by a vote of 5-0.

“To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Hudson Community Power plan, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to implement the plan, and to take all action in furtherance thereof, pursuant to RSA 53-E. The Hudson Community Power plan is an opt-out program that offers more flexible electricity procurement. The plan will initially provide lower electricity rates for residents, or it will not launch. Initial participation in the plan can be declined, after which enrollment becomes voluntary.”

Tax Impact: None

Governing Body Vote: 5 – 0

Craig Putnam explained the importance of the Deliberative Session scheduled for February 4th and then the Town voting on March 14.

The scheduling of Office Hours in Study room #2 in the Rodgers Memorial Library was explained. Dates and times booked through the end of January. There is the option to continue scheduling Office Hours through February. Office Hours are one hour session one evening a week and one hour on the Saturday morning where residents can stop by, no reservations needed, to ask any questions they have about Community Power Aggregation.

The recording of the Get Tech Smart session hosted by Flo Nicolas is now available via the HCTV website. Enter “Get Tech Smart” in the search field. This session focused on Community Power Aggregation in general and included information specific to Hudson.

Craig explained about the various documents being worked on within CPCNH that need to be finalized to help the Wave 1 towns, those going live with Community Power Aggregation this spring. If the Warrant Article is approved by voters on March 14, Hudson would be one of the Wave 2 towns that would mostly not go live until spring of 2024.

A first draft of a “Logo” was presented. (This logo was in fact changed subsequent to the Dec. meeting. The new Logo is up on the HEAC pages on the Hudson Town website and will be shown at the January meeting.)

9. **Minutes of the Public Hearing -Draft:** Motion to accept the minutes was made by Kate Messner and seconded by Ed Thompson. There was a unanimous vote to accept.
10. **Get Tech Smart:** A recording session took place on December 14th with Flo Nicolas at the HCTV studio. Craig Putnam updated residents and members. See notes above.
11. **Roadside Cleanups:** Looking to spring – Continuation of Wason Rd. Cleanup is on the minds of committee members. This project can only move forward with the support of a number of residents.

12. The next meeting – January 23rd.

13. Committee Member & Selectman Liaison Comments: Ed Thompson expressed sincere thanks to the BOS for their questions and suggestions during each of the HEAC presentations that lead to the BOS voting to move the Warrant Article forward to the Ballot on March 14. Kate Messner and Debra Putnam concurred with Ed Thompson in that the questions the BOS asked prompted further research and outreach ideas to help present the opportunity to the homeowners/business owners/voters. Members wished residents a Merry Christmas and Peace and Happiness in the New Year.

14. Adjourned: Motion to adjourn by Ed Thompson, seconded by Kate Messner. No discussion. Adjourned at 7:28pm

Debbie Putnam

Hudson Sustainability Committee, Chair

January 19, 2022



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

January 17, 2023 – 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, Kate Messner, Paul Inderbitzen and Debra Putnam with sixteen 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 second of two held in compliance with RSA 53-E as set by the New Hampshire State Legislature.

This Hearing will be conducted by Craig Putnam and Kate Messner of the Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee.

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

4. Presentation by Craig Putnam and Kate Messner - HEAC

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. Warrant Article
6. Questions & Discussion

The complete PowerPoint presentation is available to all residents through the Hudson Town Website. Go to the Hudson Town website, then to the Sustainability Committee, then to HEAC and click on the blue rectangle that includes “Presentations”. There is a duplicate set on the Public Hearings page.

5. **Questions & Answers:** At this point in the evening Moderator, Mr. Paul Inderbitzen invited the residents present (16) to ask questions and comment on the information presented. Mr. Inderbitzen explained that HCTV is recording. He further noted that the video can be viewed through the HCTV website should residents wish to prior to the Deliberative Session.

Seven registered voters plus one individual came forward with questions and comments.

1. **Bonnie Schommer, 171 Robinson Rd.:** Ms. Schommer asked, “What are the risks?”, Will Eversource still respond if she lost power or would Eversource favor the customers that use Eversource? Craig and Kate jointly responded. They went into detail about the fact that with Hudson Community Power while it becomes the provider of electricity, Eversource still issues the bills and is completely responsible for the maintenance and repair of power lines and infrastructure. Craig noted that per Public Utilities Commission (PUC) laws Eversource is not allowed to give lesser service to those who have an alternative energy supplier.
2. **Brian Driscoll, 11 Speare Rd.:** Mr. Driscoll asked what the incentive is for Eversource to work with you? Craig explained that Eversource is required by laws set by the PUC to work with alternative energy suppliers – Community Power entities all over NH. The PUC has posted a full list of the companies that have been formally approved as alternative energy suppliers in NH on their website. Eversource still gets paid to handle the delivery side of each electric bill – to maintain the infrastructure – lines, poles, etc. Mr. Driscoll asked about the rates the Town currently pays on its Power Aggregation Contract and would Hudson Community Power be able to get the same or better rate. The Town and separately the SAU81 have had contracts with alternative energy suppliers for years. These contracts have saved money. The format of Community Power Aggregation is a bit different as there is no time limited contract. Craig did not have the data specific to the Town and SAU81 per kwh rates they are paying. Craig did note that it is conceivable that if Hudson Community Power was to have a lower rate than the Town and/or the SAU 81 had with their respective contracts that they could potentially chose Hudson Community Power for their alternative electricity supplier.
3. **John Burke, 2 Hilltop Dr.:** Mr. Burke asked a question while sitting in the audience, i.e. not while at a microphone so a full report of what he asked could not be generated. The minutes of the discussion that ensued were generated by those at a microphone. Craig responded that should Hudson go forward with Community Power Aggregation then, in the future, such projects as a large solar array on a capped landfill would be more affordable to the taxpayers of Hudson. Craig noted that it would be “down the road” and complicated...so he offered to have a more in-depth conversation with Mr. Burke at another time.
4. **Donna Boucher, 8 Windham Rd.:** Ms. Boucher essentially asked what would the workload would be on the BOS. Craig noted that the passage of the Warrant Article would only be a first step. Then through a long process an energy provider partner would have to be identified amongst the approved (by the PUC) for profit and the one non-profit -CPCNH. Craig noted that extensive due diligence would need to be done as the “partner” would be doing the work of negotiating the best available electric rates and providing customer service support. The HEAC would present information, proposals, and contracts to the BOS. The BOS would make the final decision as to which entity to partner with. Debra Putnam explained about the past presentations made by companies (two for profit and CPCNH, a nonprofit) to the Sustainability Committee. Each of these companies will be presenting at one of the upcoming Sustainability Committee meetings: one in March, one in April and one in May. Craig went on to explain the progress made by the PUC in recent months regarding important legislation. He also noted that some towns are considered to be “Wave 1” and will be “going live” this spring. Hudson would be a “Wave 2” town not “going live” until the spring of 2024. Kate explained the fact that very sophisticated computer modeling is done by the energy aggregators. Craig explained that the Power Procurement Partners are allowed to purchase power as they determine it is advantageous to do so. He noted that Eversource can only purchase power during two 10day time frames each year. Debra explained that during a presentation by a for-profit power procurement company the company representatives noted that their company had purchased power shortly after the beginning of COVID when energy prices had dropped markedly. A Community Power Procurement company...a power aggregator...has that flexibility to take advantage of marked drops in the cost of electricity.

5. **Brian Driscoll, 11 Speare Rd:** Mr. Driscoll returned to the podium with additional questions. Mr. Driscoll asked for clarification regarding which entity would Community Power work with. Would Hudson Community Power negotiate with Eversource? Craig stated that there would be no advantage in doing so. Hudson Community Power would be looking for the best company to partner with for energy procurement...best rate and service package. Kate explained that the Energy Procurement company (Energy Aggregator) would develop a “portfolio” of many energy sources.
6. **Beverly Belus, 5 Rega Ave.:** Ms. Belus asked: “How can we get the word out about this?” She noted that there needs to be better outreach. Mr. Inderbitzen noted that we no longer have a community newspaper. He noted that there is information posted on the Town website and on Facebook. Debra reviewed postings to four Facebook pages. Craig explained postings to a number of organizations in Hudson. The Office Hours at Rodgers Memorial Library were explained in that residents can go to the Library’s Events calendar...and look for Office Hours in Study Room 2. Craig noted the Get Tech Smart episode on Community Power. Ms. Belus expressed concern that information gets out to “the common folk” in Hudson who do not watch TV or go on Facebook. Mr. Inderbitzen explained the importance of the Deliberative Sessions – Town and, separately, the School. If one can not attend they can watch them on HCTV. There is information available on the Town Website- HEAC webpages and HCTV – both Public Hearings and past Sustainability Committee meetings.
7. **Nancy Sudsbury, 18 Windham Rd.:** Ms. Sudsbury asked whether the electricity rate, should it be through Hudson Community Power, change monthly? Craig explained that if with Hudson Community Power “you” would be notified 30 days in advance of any upcoming rate change. You would then have a choice to stay with Hudson Community Power or switch to another energy service provider or switch back to Eversource. The goal would be to work with an Energy Aggregator company that would be able to offer a steady rate with perhaps changes twice a year. The test will be with the Wave 1 towns. Hudson will be able to learn much from their experiences over the course of the year before Hudson would go live.
8. **Bob Macaraeg, 35 Sousa Blvd.:** Mr. Macaraeg asked whether Eversource could raise their rates to those who have a different energy supplier. Craig explained that Eversource, by law, can not make any money on the supply side of their bills. Eversource makes money on the “distribution” side of their bills. Further, the PUC controls what, if any, increases Eversource is allowed to make on the distribution side of the bills. Mr. Inderbitzen noted that Eversource is not losing any money when people change to a different energy supplier. They, Eversource, make all their money from the distribution side. Mr. Inderbitzen further clarified that Eversource can not just raise the distribution side of the bill unless approved by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).
9. **Nicholas Tominelli, Demery Rd.** (not currently a registered voter or listed at address given): Mr. Tominelli asked whether there is a threshold for the number of customers in Hudson that need to participate in order for community power to work. Craig stated that it is a good question but one that he does not have an answer to. Craig noted that looking at a variety of sources of information the range of participation that is viable, that an energy supply company would be interested in working with would be closer to 85% of homes/businesses versus 15%. Debra explained that the OptIn option has been available for over 20 years in NH and never “got off the ground.” The Sustainability Committee is bringing the OptOut version of Community Power to the Hudson residents to offer them the option of making the decision (vote) as to whether they want Community Power to be an option available to them when dealing with their energy bills.

Closing Statements and Comments:

Mr. Inderbitzen thanked all for coming out. He noted the Deliberative Sessions coming up and then the Town Voting on March 14. Debra thanked all who attended the Public Hearing. Mr. Putnam encouraged all to attend the Deliberative Sessions and “Please come out and Vote!”

Adjourned: Town Moderator, Mr. Inderbitzen closed the hearing at 8:26pm.

Debra Putnam

Hudson Sustainability Committee, Chair

January 26, 2023

Run: 1/05/23
11:18AM

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

Page: 1
bmckee
ReportSortedExpenditure
Sustainability

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	209.37	0.00	210.63	49.850
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	251.00	394.09	0.00	-94.09	131.363
01-4199-5055-252-000	Sustainability Comm, Prof. Services								
	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	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	57.02	57.02	0.00	2.98	95.033
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	308.02	760.48	0.00	539.52	58.498
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	308.02	760.48	0.00	539.52	58.498

Run: 1/05/23
11:18AM

Expenditure Report - Including Carry Forward Activity
Sustainability Committee
Town of Hudson, NH
As Of: December 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	308.02	760.48	0.00	539.52	58.498
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	308.02	760.48	0.00	539.52	58.498