



**TOWN OF
BROOKLINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
ENERGY COMMITTEE**

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**Energy Committee
Meeting Minutes
November 9th, 2023**

Committee members present at the meeting: Brendan Denehy, Ian Murphy, Jan Reimers, Ryan Polson (Standard Power), and Town Administrator Scott Butcher.

Brendan called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Approval of October 17th Minutes

The October meeting minutes will be approved during the December meeting.

Presentation on Community Power by Ryan Polson and discussion

Ryan delivered a PowerPoint presentation.

Ryan noted that we could be ready to present and go to community power for 2024 instead of the initially proposed 2025.

Jan asked a question about being on net metering for solar and entering a community power contract. The answer was case by case for each customer based on Terrif structure and possible benefits.

Brenden asked about the Public Utility Commission's (PUC) approval. **Ryan** spoke of the 60-day process by the PUC for support, but Standard Power currently has 100% approval. Followed by a pricing process and subsequent steps.

Scott asked a question about the flow of funds. **Ryan** described the bill and how customers can choose their rate based on the provided breakout. The payment goes to the utility, then the supplier, and then to Standard Power.

Brenden had a question concerning scale: would we be lumped with other communities for our bid for pricing? **Ryan** explained that there is a 100 million KWh limit where the law of diminishing returns kicks in, and it doesn't make as much sense to achieve a better rate. Any combination would only be for pricing but not reflected in the contract.

Brenden asked if we could set up a community power fund to supply a revenue stream to the town through the rates. **Ryan** explained that we could set that up in our contract and would likely need to be included in the plan. Any government steps would need to be taken on Brookline's end, but Stanard Power could facilitate the process.

A discussion followed the presentation:

Brenden asked if this committee would be comfortable acting as the Community Power. The unanimous answer was yes. Select board approval will be required to make that designation, but the charter can be altered following approval.

Scott will reach out to neighboring communities who have worked with Standard Power Community.

Updates on the Fire Station Solar Project

Scott gave the update: EEI is waiting for the final building inspectors. Then, 603 Solar will send in the paperwork for the Eversource arrangement.

Discussion of Safety Complex (Ambulance) HVAC Upgrade in 2024

Brenden gave the update: Currently in the budget review processing. The oldest unit had failed and was repaired. The end-of-life unit has been recommended to upgrade the select board and finance committee approval team.

COOP Facilities Committee Update

Brenden gave the update: A meeting was held to discuss the high and middle school switch. The next step is to perform the pressure tests. December meeting will discuss the results from the test. An extension to comply with the state mandate will be required due to a two-year process starting with high school and followed by middle school. A future committee discussion will be to determine how to upgrade to heat pumps and invest in solar.

Set up Dates for Future Meetings

November 29th or 30th, 2023 @ 6:30pm

Other Business

None

Ian moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m. It was seconded by **Jan**. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

Minutes submitted by Ian Murphy.