



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

**P.O. BOX 360 – 1 Main Street  
BROOKLINE, NH 03033-0360**

Telephone (603) 673-8855, ext. 213  
Fax (603) 673-8136

<http://www.brooklinenh.us>

**Energy Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 12th, 2023**

Committee members present at the meeting: Brendan Denehy, Christopher Koffler, Ian Murphy, Jan Reimers, Graham Loff, and Town Administrator Scott Butcher.

**Brendan** called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Approval of August 9th Minutes**

**Christopher** moved to approve, **Ian** seconded, and the vote to approve was unanimous.

**Agenda Adjustments**

**Brendan** wanted to add a COOP Facilities Committee information item to the agenda.

**Brendan** gave a general update: promising results on the Master Plan survey 5-6% return. In-person session for public input into the master plan Oct 21<sup>st</sup>, 10-12, 24<sup>th</sup> virtual.

**Updates on the Fire Station Solar Project and Town Hall HVAC Project**

**Scott** gave the following updates on the project:

Agreement received from Eversource

603 coordinating with the Fire Chief to begin construction

**Brendan** brought up hopeful side effects to gain the townspeople's buy-in to support expanded solar throughout the town.

**Community Energy Committee Discussion**

**Brendan** explained that the Select Board has approved us to study community power and can adjust the charter to encompass this into our responsibilities. Oct 25<sup>th</sup>: A tentative meeting to discuss with Hollis and Ryan Paulson from Standard Power to determine whether we want to pursue and, if so, what steps are needed to kick this off. **Jan** questions how much participation is required to gain an advantage rate. **Graham** brought up that the contract should have some exit mechanism.

**Brendan** explained that the process needs to begin with the self-education of the committee to explain the benefits and bring this idea through the differing stages of Government. Community

buy-in and a vote will be required to push this out, likely to be proposed in 2025. The proposal will also include energy numbers from the Fire Station array.

### **COOP Facilities Committee Update**

**Brandan** gave the following update on the Hollis Brookline middle school/ high school COOP facilities committee. The state intervened because the schools used oil-heated boilers. The plumbing was addressed as not in compliance with state standards. A third party tested the pipes and determined they were not in compliance. The school board wanted to bond the funds to fix the plumbing and other tasks. The Hollis Energy Committee wanted to see other upgrades, which caused the proposal to fail at that presentation. A committee has been formed and is working with EEI for upgrade solutions. One proposal is a replacement of the burners to switch to propane at the rough cost of \$600k - \$1M. Another proposal is to use a geothermal solution or an HVAC system.

**Brenden** would like to include these conversations in our Community Power discussions with Hollis and Standard Power.

### **Set up Dates for Future Meetings**

November 9<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30pm

### **Other Business**

**Brenden** wanted us to continue thinking about information gathering and distributing energy consumption information to the public.

Graham asked about smaller, quicker projects, such as LED lighting upgrades, that could be done to gain some faster returns. **Scott** mentioned that a new proposal would need to be required, and anything to be replaced is being updated with LED.

**Graham** moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m. It was seconded by **Jan**. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

Minutes submitted by Ian Murphy.