

**Town of Boscawen  
ENERGY COMMITTEE  
Boscawen Municipal Complex  
FINAL MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 @ 5:30 p.m.**

**Members Present:** Edward J. Cherian Jr-Chair; Charles Niebling-Vice Chair; Gary Tillman; Nate Preisendorfer

**Absent:** Paul Dickey—Ex-Officio

**Guests:** Bill Bevans—Resident

**Staff Present:** Kearsten O’Brien-Deputy Planning & Community Development Director; Kara Gallagher-Planning & Community Development Assistant; Kellee Jo Easler-Planning and Community Development Director

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Chair Cherian opened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

PCD Assistant Gallagher completed roll call.

**Minutes:**

Mr. Tillman requested one change to Line 51-Change “simply” to “simple”

**Mr. Tillman motioned to accept the 11.14.22 draft minutes as amended. Seconded by Vice Chair Niebling. All in favor. None opposed.**

**New Business:**

*Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire*-Chair Cherian said because of the meeting frequency of this Committee, he’d like to make sure tasks are being completed outside of meetings, in order to get this agreement ready for Town Meeting 2024. He would like to shoot for the fall to have this completed. Step one has been completed. The town has become a member of the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH) as of December 2022. Step two was for the Select Board to designate a Community Power Committee. The Energy Committee was designated to become that Committee. Chair Cherian said the Committee will have a seat on the CPCNH Board as a representative, as well as an alternate. The Committee needs to work on creating a Community Power Plan. CPCNH has a template that satisfies the requirements of RSA 53-e. Chair Cherian asked PCD Director Easler to reach out to Henry Herndon of CPCNH for that template. The Committee discussed what topics would need to be covered in the Community Power Plan. Chair Cherian asked PCD Director Easler to reach out to Henry Herndon and request the aggregate electric load data from Unilil for residential, commercial and municipal that are on default. He would like to have this information to include in the plan, and have a completed draft by the March 2023 meeting. Chair Cherian asked PCD Director Easler to send out a definition of RSA 53-e to the Committee members to help aid the creation of the Community Power Plan.

Vice Chair Niebling invited Mr. Bill Bevans to speak. Mr. Bevans had done some research on Community Power in the town of Durham. Vice Chair Niebling asked if Mr. Bevans had any questions or concerns for the Committee. Mr. Bevans said Durham has a 47 page document within which states the

town or community must supply a representative to manage the program. Chair Cherian said this could be in reference to the member and alternate for the Executive Committee. Mr. Bevans also said the program has invested \$88 million that will be paid back in three years. He said he does not see how he would benefit from this and that he does not feel as though he would save any money. Chair Cherian asked where that amount came from. Mr. Bevans said it was stated on the CPCNH website. Discussion ensued. Chair Cherian said it appears as though the town does not need to pay any money. Vice Chair Niebling said eventually there will be a FAQ document that will answer a lot of these questions for residents.

### **Old Business:**

*Merrimack Valley Woodchip Plant Tour-* The tour is scheduled for January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. Vice Chair Niebling sent invitations to the Concord Energy Committee, the Loudon Energy Committee, and the Webster Energy Committee, since all mentioned are a part of the Merrimack Valley School District. Salisbury does not have an Energy Committee. Mr. Tillman asked if any of those towns are a part of the CPCNH Community Power Program. Vice Chair Niebling said Webster is and Concord is going through the process.

*Energy Updates to Municipal Complex-* PCD Director Easler asked if the Committee members received the pictures of the new insulation in the attic. All said yes. Vice Chair Niebling asked if the town employees could feel a difference with the new insulation. PCD Director said yes. The Committee toured the building to view the insulation project.

### **Other Business:**

*Membership-*Mr. Tillman and Mr. Preisendorfer were each sworn in for three year terms.

*Pending Action Items-* PCD Easler asked if Action Items could be added to the agenda to keep track of tasks. This month's Action Items include:

- How often are the meetings for CPCNH and are they virtual: PCD Director Easler/Herndon
- Template for Community Power Plan: PCD Director Easler/Herndon
- Send RSA 53-e to Committee members: PCD Director Easler
- Find out aggregate electric load data from Unitil for residential, commercial and municipal: PCD Director Easler/Herndon
- Contact Clean Energy NH for a summary of new federal incentives for renewable energy and energy efficiency; draft a posting to the Newsvine, Town Website and Facebook: Vice Chair Niebling
- Solar Permit Report-PCD Assistant Gallagher

**Vice Chair Niebling motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Tillman. All in favor. None opposed.**

**Next Meeting: March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023, @ 5:30 p.m.**

*Respectfully submitted by Kara Gallagher.*