

Concord Energy and Environment Advisory Committee  
Wednesday, October 25, 2023  
6:00 PM  
City Council Chambers  
MINUTES

Attendees: Chair, Rob Werner, Nick Babladelis, Carl Cooley, Dot Currier, Allen Desbiens, Gerald Eaton, Jeffrey Evans, Jonathan Weinberg, Chuck Willing, Beth Fenstermacher (Director, Projects and Strategic Initiatives)

Guests: Robert Hayden and Emily Manns, Standard Power, Brian Callnan and Henry Herndon, Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire. Joseph Kwasnik.

Absent: Jessica Forrest, Councilor Byron Champlin, Councilor Stacey Brown, Jennifer Galbraith, Grace Ciu (student representative), Frances Lesser (student representative).

I. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair opened the meeting at 6:05 PM.

II. Community Power Presentations

The Chair introduced our guests. They presented two Community Power options, the towns and cities which contract with an energy supplier and the coalition which combines the customers load of the coalition's communities and deals directly with suppliers. Bob Hayden made a presentation about Standard Power (SP, a New Hampshire Energy Broker and energy services provider. Standard Power supplies communities which have not joined the Community Power Coalition. SP arranges the power supply with a mix of renewable energy. They participate in local energy projects such as the hydro facility located on the Milford/Wilton town boundary. SP offers a standard default service which contains 33.4% renewable sources as compared to 23.4% offered by the electric utilities default service rates. Customers can opt for 50% or 100% renewable, and only the 100% renewable option is priced above the utilities' standard default service. Two percent of customers opt out and take the utility's default energy service or contract with their own energy supplier.

Brian Callnan then made a presentation of the Community Power Coalition. As of June 2023, the Coalition is made up of thirty-five cities and towns and one county. Although not all of the municipalities in the coalition have launched, the Coalition is the second largest default energy service supplier in the state, supplying 93,000 customers. Only one half of 1% have opted out. The Coalition is governed by a board of directors nominated from the various municipalities in the Coalition. In addition to the cost of

power, the Coalition adds 3% for its overheads (administration) and 11% to build up capital reserves. The goal is to have 120 days of operating reserves.

### III. Policy and Project updates

Solar RFP for the City Landfill – Beth Fenstermacher reported that the Final lease documents are still being negotiated with Kearsarge Solar.

Rob Werner reported that plans are in the works for a 125-kilowatt solar installation at the City's waste water treatment facility on Hall Street. This facility would be behind the meter and supply the waste water treatment plant's load. Concord has received a grant from DES through ARCLA to help pay for this project. Kearsarge Energy, the successful bidder on the landfill solar project, is considering a one-megawatt solar facility at the waste water treatment facility.

Rob Werner reported that the City is applying for another sustainability fellow for the 2024 summer period. The successful college or graduate student would work on community engagement and outreach.

Upon MOTION by Nick Babladelis, seconded by Chuck Willing it was unanimously VOTED to approve the minutes of the September 27, 2023 committee meeting. There was no abstention.

Upon MOTION by Allen Desbien, seconded by Jerry Eaton, it was unanimously VOTED to adjourn at 8:15 PM.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, November 15 at 6:00PM.