

**TOWN OF BEDFORD**  
**October 22, 2020**  
**ENERGY COMMISSION MINUTES**

A meeting of the Bedford Energy Commission was held on Thursday, October 22, 2020 via the Zoom Meeting Platform.

Present: Tim Paradis (Chair), John Russell (Vice Chair), Lori Radke (Town Council Alternate), John Schneller (School Board Liaison), Bill Foote (School Board Liaison Alternate), Bart Fromuth, Tom Elwood

Absent: Denise Ricciardi (Town Council Liaison), Andrew Gillis, Bing Lu

Chairman Paradis read the following statement:

- *Due to the state of emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.*
- *Please note that there is no physical location to observe this meeting which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's emergency order; however, in accordance with the emergency order I am confirming that: A) We are providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access live on BCTV Comcast Channel 22, or streaming online by going to the town website and choosing "BCTV" under "Departments" and clicking on "Channel 22". We are utilizing an online platform called Zoom for this electronic meeting. All members of the Commission have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform. The public can call into this meeting via the instructions that are being shown on the BCTV broadcast. B) We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the meeting using the telephone which is listed at the top of the agenda on the town website; C) If anybody has a problem accessing the meeting via the phone, please email us at [bctv@bedfordtv.com](mailto:bctv@bedfordtv.com). In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled.*
- *Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote. Let's start the meeting by taking roll call attendance. When each member states their presence please also state whether there's also anyone in the room with you during this meeting which is required under The Right to Know Law:*

*John Russell (alone); John Schneller (alone); Bill Foote (alone); Lori Radke (alone); Bart Fromuth (alone); Tim Paradis (alone), Tom Elwood (alone).*

- I. Call to Order: Chairman Paradis opened the meeting at 7:00 PM. He appointed Ms. Radke as voting member for the evening.
- II. Quorum Count: (5)
- III. Approval of Minutes – September 24, 2020

**Roll call vote taken – All in favor 5-0 – September 24, 2020 Minutes approved.**

#### IV. Reports of Members and Committees

a. Legislative update – No report was given in Ms. Ricciardi’s absence.

1. Clean Energy NH Bill Synopsis and 2020 Summary Webinar

A. <https://www.cleanenergynh.org/copy-of-energy-bills-1>

B. <https://www.cleanenergynh.org/policyupdates>

Chairman Paradis noted that Clean Energy NH has a bill summary synopsis and a 2020 summary webinar and provided online links to both. These sites should be a good clearinghouse for what is going on out there and help us understand the status of Energy Bills that are pertinent to us.

Mr. Fromuth commented on SB 166 (the net metering bill). He talked to the Assistant Mayor of Lebanon, Clifton Below who was a driving force in getting this bill passed. The big ticket item in this bill is allowing competitive suppliers to determine whether or not they wanted to give a monetary credit for customers they are serving for usage that nets out for the solar panels they might have on their roofs over and above their usage for a given period of time or if they just wanted that credit against future use. Each determination has an impact in terms of renewable portfolio standard compliance payments; so, if you get a credit it gets tagged against the supplier’s wholesale use that is recorded by ISO New England; and therefore, they pay less in RPS compliance. If someone uses 1,000 kilowatts less than what they produce and the supplier decides to give them a monetary benefit for that and pays them for that 1000 kwh extra surplus, then the supplier’s RPS compliance would actually go up as a result of that. Mr. Fromuth said there were some other technical things about SB 166 having some effect on load reducers which he thinks has some interplay with regional capacity costs – he will have to get a little more information on this for everyone later. SB 166 in a nutshell is giving supplier the ability to determine whether they want to give monetary benefit to the customer or if they just want to credit against future usage.

Chairman Paradis asked when the season where our headlines for potentially proposed bills start to get registered with whatever-needed registering body for headlines for bills that might be coming out. Mr. Fromuth said that there is a window in which incumbents can file early (prior to election); so, if an incumbent files and then is subsequently voted out of office for next term, then that legislative request gets removed from the tally. He doesn’t know how much is public information at this point in time, because those are typically requests that are put into the legislative offices for bills to be written and he doesn’t recall if the public is given any advance notice on those potential bills; but we should start seeing some activity after the election (there’s a 2-week window that’s typically open in December for legislation to be put through); so we have this small period right now before the election, and then we have another 2-week window once the new legislature is in place. It’s different for Senators who just enter a bill when they want to, up until crossover; but for House members it’s a tad different.

Chairman Paradis replied that we may be able to get some information in December, and he thinks Henry Herndon of Clean Energy NH said that they’ll start to register those things for legislative updates and we might get some updates as to whether group net metering will be back on the slate again along with a few other things that are out there. Mr. Fromuth said he expects group net metering to. It is one of those things that comes back every year, and we’ll see what the make up of the legislature is. If Democrats advance seats in the House, it will be enough for a veto-proof

majority. If Feltes wins over Sununu for Governor the prevailing thought is that you wouldn't need a veto-proof majority to get his sign-off on the bills. There are a lot of implications on how the election goes for the viability of that bill.

b. School projects

1. Review Feasibility study items completed
2. Link to study to Energy Commission Website BedfordNH.org

Mr. Schneller reported that Bedford School Superintendent Mike Fournier signed the paperwork that was needed to be sent to Eversource. Mr. Schneller thinks for a short period of time (30-days) we can get full-blown access to the data that we want. He is unsure what the limiting factor is beyond that 30-days; but there is sort of a hard date when we would only have access to a limited stream of data. So, there are still some hoops we have to jump through to get all the data we want when we want it; but he thinks it's achievable.

Mr. Fromuth stated that he *did* get all of the data that was available via the passwords provided by Eversource. He confirmed that we *do* only have a 30-day window to do the higher-level data and go through it. He reported on his findings: The coincident peak this past summer was on July 27<sup>th</sup> hour ending 6:00 pm. If you jump into the data, the high school was running at 131 kw of demand, which means that we're essentially going to be seeing a capacity obligation of about 6/10<sup>ths</sup> of a cent per kilowatt hour – and that's actually pretty good in terms of where we're at right now. For instance, the previous year (2018) the peak was August 29<sup>th</sup> and the high school was running at 116 kw of demand (which is about 15 kw less) than this year, and we were just a little bit under in capacity obligation (under 5/10<sup>ths</sup> of a cent per kilowatt hour). That means our average usage for a given year at the high school is roughly 1.8 million, and our capacity obligation is \$9,058.00 per year. So, we are doing a pretty good job given the size of the account, but there's probably not much we can do with the school district to minimize that further, so he thinks the task of the Energy Commission working with the school district is to make sure that we keep it as low as it has been and find out if they have been doing anything to achieve this and have an action plan in place, or if it is just blind luck (as a result of school not being in session during the summer months and the coincident rate typically taking place in June, July, or August) keeping the capacity obligation that low at the high school. The typical capacity tag for any user in New England is about 2.5-cents per kilowatt hour, so we'd be looking at about 45,000 if we had an average capacity obligation. We are doing a pretty good job already of mitigating that, but it's definitely something we want to stay on top of because all it takes is for us to miss that hour and have a lot of usage during that hour in the years to come.

Mr. Schneller thinks the plan of action at the schools is not rocket science, but simply when there is no one in the school, why use energy. When there are lots of people in the school they limit the amount of energy for whatever they're using it for, but they cut it off at certain times of the day. He is unsure of how much more can be trimmed beyond those two things.

Mr. Fromuth explained that because of the way it is structured in NE, you have to avoid energy usage during that one hour per year in order to get the benefit of reducing your capacity obligation. There are services the school district can sign up for. Eversource also puts out notifications; but

they tend to over-notify of the dates when the potential peak may occur making it hard to truly determine the actual date it will occur. Eversource saturates and “cries wolf” too much.

Mr. Foote thinks Todd Zollman, Facilities Director for the Bedford School District is on top of the energy usage in the school district and it is an easy cost avoidance. Mr. Foote thinks that’s why we’re seeing that \$9,000 capacity valuation.

Chairman Paradis moved on to discuss the feasibility study that was done in 2018. He did some research and noted when it was voted to be approved. Then the study was done and we got it back just in time for budget season for the schools. It was brought to the school board and there was some talk of what should be done/what could be bonded and the project was voted down. Chairman Paradis couldn’t find a link to the feasibility study on BedfordNH.org, the Energy Commission website or School Board website. He asked if we have any record of what the small cap-x things that were done in the school that were easy to accomplish that wouldn’t require a lot of money? Do we have a record of what was done and what wasn’t done? John Schneller said it is somewhere. He remembers Mike Fournier mentioning that they were getting after some of the small ticket items that don’t have to be folded in or bonded to the bigger items, so there is a record of that. There was also discussion of it on BCTV. There is a spreadsheet somewhere out there with check marks next to the things that have been done. Mr. Foote clarified that Todd Zollman is running it as an operational improvement thing instead of part of the capital plan. Mr. Foote said if you look at the feasibility plan we only approved things that had a payback of less than 10-years and you can scroll down in the feasibility study and see the small dollar items that were operationalized and we are picking them off and Mr. Foote doesn’t think anything is being left behind. Everything big-dollar had to be stopped and reconsidered. Some will come back as the equipment lifecycles out.

Chairman Paradis said that the Energy Commission may be able to look for opportunities that could save the Town money on some of the larger things that were recommended, and keep an eye out for when they definitely should be done. He wondered if a continuity plan should be made between the Energy Commission and the School Board so that nothing slips through the cracks. Mr. Foote said that sits on the line of the town side and the school side and they are independent of each other. As the equipment fails it has got to be replaced. You can’t have a lack of heat or air exchange when that equipment finally fails. That will be looked at when the school board does a capital investigation starting next month. That will be the time to pay attention to what will hit the life expenditure. He is unsure how the Energy Commission might be involved in all of this. Chairman Paradis really wants to make sure we just aren’t missing anything recommended in the feasibility study. Mr. Schneller stated that there were three things Todd Zollman found money for in the operational budget. Mr. Schneller said the school board will be presented with a capital budget and maybe they can talk to Mike Fournier to see if he can move the presentation forward so the Energy Commission could look for grants and things that might help the schools out in bringing down their costs that they might not have found. Mr. Foote said that energy cost reduction is one of the school board’s operational principles for the next couple of years and it is definitely on the radar. The school board is looking at school systems at the end of life that might be ready to fail and making a plan for which ones need to be replaced over time.

Mr. Russell asked what needs to be done at Riddlebrook School. Mr. Foote said air handling/HVAC equipment was installed in 1997 when the building was erected and is now at the end of its 25-year life. Right now cold air is being pulled in from outside, being heated, and blown back outside from the roof, which is not energy efficient. An economizer would allow you to warm the air as it comes in, using it throughout the school, and as it is being exhausted warming up the incoming air. An economizer would allow fuel costs to drop. The cost of replacing all the equipment is close to \$600,000, which is not a small dollar hit. The work on this must be done in the summertime, so it must be planned a year in advance. Mr. Russell asked if air circulation and Covid concerns could be tied in. Mr. Foote says that no one at Riddlebrook has Covid-related air circulation concerns because the air exchange there works so fast. It's great for Covid, but bad for energy efficiency. Mr. Foote said the school board is waiting for an engineering report, though, to see what the science is. Mr. Schneller asked about Mr. Russell's concern with air flow. Mr. Russell explained that he works for a French company and one of his colleagues began studying air flow in enclosed spaces. Mr. Russell's concern is whether the same air is flowing around internally. He wonders if simple things like opening windows at strategic points may be part of the solution, but also if this whole concept of air flow is something that could justify the need to spend money for air handling. Mr. Schneller said these things are all being looked at. He said he would email Mike Fournier to see if he can pull the CapX report so the Energy Commission could review it from an energy perspective and be an aid to anything that may escape the school's eyes. Chairman Paradis suggested putting a link to the feasibility study up on the Energy Commission website.

## V. Old Business

- a. Solsmart – [www.thesolarfoundation.org](http://www.thesolarfoundation.org) – Call with Solsmart recap?

### A. Start with Bronze level

Ms. Radke reported that at the beginning of October, she, Mr. Russell, and Mr. Elwood had a meeting with a Solsmart representative. It was a very good meeting and they had the opportunity to ask questions. If we decide to move forward with getting Solsmart designation for the town the next step is to complete a solar statement and complete a list of questions on the statement. Ms. Radke says that Solsmart is a resource that won't cost us anything; for example, if you wanted to write an ordinance they would help you write it. Solsmart can be available as a consultancy resource too. The first step is to complete the statement, then if we meet the criteria we would be given Solsmart designation and be able to then use Solsmart as a resource.

Chairman Paradis asked if there were any benefits or downsides to Solsmart. Mr. Russell sees Solsmart designation as a way to enhance property values and help promote the town. Many other towns have solar projects. Bedford does not at this time but having a solar project could be a differentiator for us.

Chairman Paradis asked if the statement can be completed by the Energy Commission or if it needs to go through Town Council. Ms. Radke feels it's a good idea to have it as an agenda item for Town Council and she can explain what the Energy Commission will do with Solsmart and provide them with a copy of the statement and questions. Hopefully, Town Council will give the "go-ahead" so we can move forward to complete the statement.

- b. Electricity Usage - No report was given in Mr. Gillis and Mr. Lu's absence.
  - 1. Library big electricity consumer
    - A. DPW has purchased an Eyedro 3 phase energy monitor with web interface. Peter Barbuto set the system up in March to get baseline data during April.
  - 2. Town
    - A. NH State Office of Initiatives
      - a. Potential State \$ for Bedford projects/costs?
      - b. VW settlement \$

Chairman Paradis looked at some websites to try and see how the Energy Commission may be able to be of assistance in finding ways to be more energy efficient like they did at the schools and the library, or finding ways to get grant money. He noted that Town Manager, Rick Sawyer often comments about new buildings being needed around town, and he wonders how the Energy Commission may be able to assist in perhaps finding State monies to fund things. He asked Mr. Fromuth if there is an opportunity for the Energy Commission to do research similar to what we did in reviewing the energy bills at the high school, or finding the one hour of the year that we could be aware of to lower the demand charge. Mr. Fromuth sees a lot of movement in the electric vehicle space. Ten years ago it used to be that every 1 out of 10 cars was an electric car or hybrid, but these days it's about 1 out of 4. He recalled Mr. Schneller doing some work on the parking spaces at the high school (but is unsure whether those spots belong to the town or the school). His thought is that perhaps we could use parking spots as a revenue driver while also getting on top of some of the trends out there. Maybe we should put forward a proposal to the Town Council about putting in electric vehicle chargers in public places. The town should be thinking about their overall plan down the road for electrification for electric vehicles. The rebate money isn't there right now, but it is still a good conversation to be having because there has been a lot of adoption on this in the private sector in States like Massachusetts which have plans to motivate construction of electric vehicle charging stations at office parks and universities for municipalities.

Mr. Schneller finds this interesting, and noted that in the lot adjacent to the one that was already paved at the high school there is a condemned building, so there may be some room there for multiple electric vehicle chargers especially if there were credits and economic incentives to do it. He feels this could be something worthwhile the Energy Commission could do, and maybe it would even be a revenue source for the town.

Mr. Fromuth said one of the cool things you can do with electric vehicle charging stations is to set them up selectively as to who is able to use them for free, and who gets charged to use them. For example, staff at the high school may be given a swipe card that allows them to use the charging station for free, but the general public would pay a certain rate to use it. It can also be set up so that if someone parks their car in the charging space beyond the designated charge time (in turn preventing anyone else from using the charging station because the offender's car is parked there too long) they get charged penalty fees on their credit card. If we think we can drive the traffic to electric charging stations, Mr. Fromuth thinks if we could come up with a business plan to present to Town Council showing them how it could be cash positive. Mr. Schneller likes the idea and

thinks that if well-instituted it could even become a model for other towns. Mr. Fromuth and Mr. Schneller will work on this going forward.

Ms. Radke also suggested talking with the Bedford Police Department to find out if they plan on getting electric cars when they turn over their fleet of cars, and if so, when. In the Town of Hollis where she works in their Chief of Police is already looking into them.

Mr. Foote asked if placement of electric car charging units are part of the Town of Bedford's Masterplan? Ms. Radke says the Masterplan is not complete yet, but the draft is on the town website. If electric vehicle charging stations are not already in the masterplan, perhaps they could be added.

3. Electricity Usage Schools – Already covered by Mr. Fromuth earlier in this meeting
- c. Solar Farm at the Transfer Station
  1. John info from other towns that able to do with <1MW net metering

Mr. Russell had nothing to report at this time, but Chairman Paradis indicated we are trying to look for other opportunities while we are still under the 1MW net metering rule. Ms. Radke asked if there had ever been discussion of putting up a solar array somewhere at the transfer station site where the output would be used solely by the transfer station to power their equipment. She had an offline conversation with one of our councilmembers who indicated he would have been supportive of that. Mr. Foote indicated that former Town Council and Energy Commission member, Chris Bandazian would know the details for sure. Mr. Foote says he thinks 3-phase power is needed all the way down Chubbuck Road and that they were also talking about putting an array on a hillside and running the power all the way down to Riddlebrook School. The cost of running 3-phase power through the woods to the hillside would be expensive and restrictive. With the upgrade to the transfer station, the town may feel that it makes sense to do on its own at that point if the economics look better. Chairman Paradis indicated there were reasons they wanted stage 3 in there, for the dump trucks and 18-wheelers going in and out and for balers, for example. He said Jeff Foote at the transfer station was interested in getting Phase 3 power for a lot of things he wanted to do there. Getting 3 phase power to the transfer station seems to be the biggest hurdle. Mr. Foote said if that were to happen it would be much cheaper because they could get compactors at the transfer station rather than sending trucks out, but without 3 phase power there it is hard to justify having solar there because you can't offload the power someplace and there was also a question of how much power the whole town could tolerate because you have to have a home for the power the solar array would generate.

Mr. Fromuth feels it really depends on how the deal would be structured: The big reason net metering is so attractive is because your return on investment is significantly accelerated over the wholesale market. One of the things that recently threw a monkey wrench into that (and that you should be wary of when examining the ROI on your solar package) is a lot of times if you are outside one of the State programs (like net metering or getting the standard utility offer as your payback) you need to determine what you would be paying if you didn't have the solar panels at the facility. The prospectus will generally have a trend in terms of utility rates that go out 20-years to show you what your projected savings will be. A lot of times what is shown in savings assumes that the utility rate escalates at a certain percentage, but what we are seeing now (especially

because of coronavirus) is that Eversource's rate is almost at a 13-year low and the standard rate is 7-cents per kilowatt hour. When the last plan was evaluated it may have looked good back in 2017 or 2018 when the Eversource rate was 11.4-cents; but that rate is cut almost 40% now and the economics now look terrible. You just have to be careful about any forward-looking assumptions when you go outside of the State programs. The State program through net metering insulates you from having to be concerned about that because you have a guaranteed return vis-à-vis the standard offer rate and you really can't lose. This is just food for thought when evaluating if solar makes sense and what type of program you are going to go with.

Mr. Fromuth also noted that if the transfer station vehicles were going to be electric vehicles going forward, you would need 3 phase power out there to charge them, anyhow. Between net metering and 3 phase power Chairman Paradis surmised that we are simply in a holding pattern right now.

Chairman Paradis brought up the draft masterplan online and noted that there is a line item for "Advanced Transportation and Infrastructure Connections" and "Conserve the Natural Environment and Manage Change" and big idea #13 is "Promote energy efficiency and sustainability" and says, "developing a sustainability plan and encouraging energy efficient building construction, hallways, and transportation and solutions" – that could be construed as something for the transfer station as well as electric vehicle charging stations as a transportation solution that might be worked into the 10-year masterplan. At least there is mention of it in the masterplan.

#### d. Municipal Aggregation Cost Analysis and Presentation

1. Recap meeting with Henry of CENH to educate and discuss on 9/25 at 8am.

Chairman Paradis had a conversation with Henry Herndon of Clean Energy NH who said if you weren't coming together as a community and doing anything before 2022, you are still going to be really ahead of the game. There is a lot going on that we still don't even know about, so to try and take any major steps to even think about doing municipal aggregation for Bedford would be pretty far out because even the towns on the vanguard are still needing to learn a lot more and it may take awhile yet. Chairman Paradis knows that we were originally really excited about this, but we will probably just continue to partner with Mr. Herndon and other resources and learn more about what might be good for Bedford as it comes along. It is too early to ask anything of the Town Council. Mr. Russell concurred and noted Mr. Herndon saying that even if this were to get done by 2020 we would still be ahead of the game.

Mr. Fromuth agreed with Mr. Herndon that a lot of stuff is on hold and work is being done to convince the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) not to be too draconian in their rulemaking process because a lot of requests are coming forth from major utilities (and Eversource is leading the pack) essentially trying to neuter the Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) program and put so many restrictions in place that it really defeats the purpose of launching community choice aggregations in the first place. The big ticket item for Eversource is that they want communities that launch their CCA to notify Eversource 120-days before they start their next rate cycle and that creates a scenario that communities that want to move forward are flying blind in terms of the rate that they're offering – for example, if Bedford had a CCA rate of 7.5-cents from our vendor, Eversource would want us to make a commitment to that 7.5-cents 120-days out from when the

next Eversource rate cycles starts; so, we would have no idea if Eversource is going to be at 8.5-cents or 6.5-cents and it creates a significant political gamble for Town council and no one would effectively take that risk if they would be upside down in the official launch of their program. No other State in the country that has CCA in place right now which has that type of rule in place.

Eversource is also the major utilities in the State of Massachusetts, and Massachusetts has a very healthy and robust CCA marketplace. 150 communities have moved forward with CCA's in Massachusetts, many of which are in Eversource territory and they do not have that restriction; so, we are fighting this pretty hard in New Hampshire. The PUC staff seems to be pretty favorable to the arguments put forth by Eversource – namely that the more communities that move forward with CCA are going to cause disruption to the standard offer procurement process and that is going to cause the standard offer to go up for anybody else that's not left on there. About a month ago Mr. Fromuth put together testimony that he submitted that include substantive data from a 2013 timeframe where competitive choice really took hold in New Hampshire for about a 2-year period. There was one period when 100,000 customers moved from standard offer service to third party procurement and it had no significant impact on the standard offer price going forward. Mr. Fromuth hopes the PUC staff looks at data like that to see that even if there is any type of an incremental increase as a result of the CCA actions that it is only confined to that next 6-month rate cycle period and once you get outside of that the effect is gone forever, because when you look at the CCA's that move forward – very few CCA's actually collapse or cease to exist. Once a community has launched a CCA they typically never go back to the old way of doing things and the CCA moves forward and the customers don't trace back to the utility.

Mr. Fromuth said the only area he has a disagreement with Mr. Herndon on, in terms of the timing, is when the town would want to be talking about this, because the way Bedford is structured with our governors we can only get a CCA authorized and approved on town meeting day in March, so there's only a finite window with which to act to get the authorization. You can have the community authorize CCA as a program on the ballot on town meeting day and then sit on it and not do anything with it if the time is not right – food for thought. Mr. Fromuth suggests working on getting it authorized at the community level but then not doing anything with it because this really is a major obstacle for smaller communities that cannot be as nimble as city governments that can move on CCA anytime their city council gets together and votes on it. Because of our town meeting structure, Bedford has very finite windows and if we are not ready for 2022 but we are really excited about it – we would be waiting until 2023 before we could even get authorization. This is his only pushback to Mr. Herndon's advice. Chairman Paradis stated if we didn't go up for it at the next town meeting the next time would be 2022 and the town would have to agree on it; so by just having only one shot at it per year we could be waiting a number of years and end up behind the 8-ball once it finally gets approved if it ever does. If we want to move in that direction, we would first need to go to Town Council and get it on their agenda in order to get Town Council approval for it to be something to vote on during town meeting day. In between there would also be at least one, if not two public hearings before it gets to the ballot. Ms. Radke said she would have to do some research to see where this would fall on the warrant and if it is voted on the official ballot or if it is going to be voted on at the budgetary meeting. Mr. Schneller thinks you can file a citizen's petition with 50-validated signatures that would circumvent anything budgetary and it would go on the official ballot as a warrant article without going through the Town Council or through the budgetary process. Ms. Radke said he is correct, but she still needs clarification if it

goes on the official ballot or not. It would good if it was on the official ballot because we would be having 2,000 – 3,000 people voting on it as opposed to 75 people who show up to a budgetary meeting. Chairman Paradis would like to connect with Chris Bandazian to find the answer to this. Ms. Radke said that she can also send him the dates that everything would need to be in by.

Chairman Paradis asked if we were able to put something together and talk to the Chairperson of Town Council what is the latest we could get on the agenda in order to get everything done before March. Ms. Radke said the timeline is a little more flexible if it is the Energy Commission trying to get this on the ballot as opposed to petition-driven citizens' effort to get it on the ballot. She guesses that the warrant would have to be done by the end of February and usually the warrant has to be posted by February 25<sup>th</sup>. As a former town clerk, if you want it on the official ballot, she would encourage getting it in the first or second week of February so ballots can be printed. It really depends if it gets on the official ballot or if it is a warrant. Ms. Radke will research it more before giving definitive dates. She noted it is also important to factor in time, about a year, for public education on the topic because people tend to not vote for things they don't understand. She asked Mr. Fromuth for an example of an article that went before town meeting in another town so she could look at the verbiage. Mr. Fromuth said it is so new that only the only town that has a town meeting structure and has done this is Lincoln, NH. They approved it in early 2020, but it wasn't on the ballot. Ms. Radke will contact The Town of Lincoln's town administrator for more information and see what direction they went in.

#### VI. New Business

- a. Goal for actionable item to be accomplished in next 2/3 meetings

Chairman Paradis thinks Solsmart would be a nice thing to say we got accomplished for the town, and Mr. Fromuth and Mr. Russell's upcoming work on the electric vehicle charging stations should be the Energy Commission other actionable goal.

- b. Local Energy Solutions (LES) Conference: Virtual Thursday 10/29 and Friday 10/30 10am-2pm –Chairman Paradis know if you would like to attend.

VII. Reminders: Next upcoming meetings are November 19<sup>th</sup> and December 17<sup>th</sup>

#### VIII. Adjournment

**MOTION to adjourn by Mr. Schneller at 9:23 P.M. Seconded by Mr. Russell . Roll call vote taken- Motion Passed 5-0 .**

Respectfully submitted by,

Tiffany Lewis