

Cheshire Community Power Public Information Session  
Monday October 16, 2023  
7 PM at Town Hall, Third floor

In attendance: Cheshire County Commissioner Terry Clark, John Kondos (Clean Energy NH), James Finnegan (Energy Committee), Blake Minckler (Energy Committee), Susan Peters (Select Board and Energy Committee), and many Dublin residents.

Blake introduced Terry Clark and John Kondos. John spoke and answered questions. His power point presentation is available on the Town website (Energy Committee page).

- What is community power?
- Customer notification and enrollment process. A letter coming in the mail explains the process to opt out. Residents with a third-party supplier (not Eversource) - must choose to enroll; can sign up online now. When changing their status (opting in and opting out), residents can check out the website, make a phone call, or send an email.
- Customers ineligible for automatic enrollment include net metering customers and people with 3rd party suppliers; also very large customers are not auto enrolled; medium size businesses are welcome now.
- Menu of Electricity Choices - offering lower rates than Eversource's current rate; offers 3 or 4 choices for consumers, some with a higher percentage of renewable energy source
- Community Power Coalition of NH (CPCNH) buys electricity at multiple times per year. Experienced CEO Brian Callnan who worked most recently at NH Electric Cooperative.
- How often will the rate change/new contract be purchased? CPCNH will reprice every six months - which is what the market is used to. Rates are set by committee (we can have a rep on the committee if we so choose). Primary purpose of the Reserve Fund will be to lower the rate to avoid rate spikes.
- Harrisville and Peterborough have already gone live with community power with CPCNH; next wave soon will include Hancock, Westmoreland, and Cheshire County.
- Community power is spreading across NH with many choosing to go with CPCNH.
- Cheshire Community Power is a streamlined model for Cheshire County towns: (1) Select Board vote and approve Cheshire-EAP Attachment 10; (2) Launch Community Power. Dublin, Nelson, Fitzwilliam are in the first wave; Chesterfield will be joining in the 2nd wave. Participating communities will have a voice in decision making through the Cheshire Community Power Governance Council. Plan to build up reserves to be used mainly to keep rates low and to develop local projects.
- Participation in Cheshire Community Power is voluntary - you can exit and change at any time. Activation is synched with the reading of the meter. Bill will continue to come from Eversource which is still the utility of record.
- Cheshire Community Power is scheduled to go live on November 11 or whenever your bill is read. The date individual customers go live will depend on their meter reading date. Customers will see the savings on their December bill.
- Eversource will still deliver the electricity - through their poles and wires. Eversource's delivery rate will not change. As a public utility Eversource is regulated.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm

Respectfully submitted, Susan W. Peters