

## Town of Dublin Energy Committee Meeting

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

7 PM at Town Hall, ground floor

In attendance: Blake Minckler, Jack Munn, Susan Peters (Select Board).

**Municipal Solar.** There was discussion that, with the real estate tax rate having gone up and people feeling the pinch, it may not be a good year to propose a warrant article for a municipal solar project. John Kondos (Clean Energy NH) has previously advised the Committee that, for small municipal solar projects, grant funds may be available to help defray a large portion of the cost, with towns needing to pay a relatively small match. Inflation Reduction Act tax incentives may also cover a portion of the costs.

Grants are an important resource for municipal solar and energy efficiency projects. Jack mentioned the Northern Borders grant as another valuable opportunity that some NH communities are taking advantage of. It was agreed that the Committee should focus on grant opportunities. John Kondos is scheduled to attend the November 29 meeting and will advise on grant opportunities. We will also discuss a possible action plan for a municipal solar array on the Fire Station roof.

Jack reported on the October 27 email from Tony Guinta relating to work by Novis Engineering. Novis did an evaluation of the town landfill and calculated the possible size of an array to be about 200 kW, or between 510 and 600 solar panels depending upon panel efficiency. This is roughly the size of the Dublin School array. Large investors might not be interested in a project this size, but small investors might be. It will be helpful to discuss this with John Kondos. Typically on investor-owned arrays (with a lease agreement), the Town's expenses are legal fees and funds to do an RFP. There are different ways to take advantage of a municipal array (for example, net metering; behind the meter; off the grid). If there is interest on the part of the Town, Novis could evaluate the entire 90 acres of Town-owned land at the Transfer Station and Highway Barn. This would include evaluation of hydric soils and topography.

### **September 27 and October 5, 2023 minutes**

On motion made by Jack and seconded by Blake, the minutes of the September 27 and October 5 meetings were approved.

### **October 16, 2023 minutes**

On motion made by Blake and seconded by Susan, the minutes of the October 16 meeting were approved.

On November 2, Susan will attend Clean Energy NH's Local Energy Solutions Conference in Manchester. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan W. Peters