

Town of Dublin Energy Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 7, 2022
7 PM at Town Hall, ground floor

In attendance:

In person: Allen Hearn, Blake Minckler, Jack Munn, Susan Peters (Select Board), and residents Bronson Shonk and Mary Shonk.

Susan opened the meeting and explained that over the past several months the Committee has been hearing from various speakers about community power opportunities that could benefit Dublin. One challenge is how to marshal the manpower and expertise to move forward with a community power proposal for Dublin. Involving more members of the Dublin community is an important next step. There are outside resources available: the Community Power Coalition of NH (Coalition), energy-related committees in surrounding towns, and for-profit electricity supply brokers who can assist towns with the community power process.

Committee members acknowledged that the Coalition offers a lot of experience and expertise about the process of implementing community power. On motion made by Jack and seconded by Allen, it was unanimously agreed to recommend to the Select Board that Dublin join the Coalition in order to utilize their knowledge, expertise, and services. This would involve appointing a Dublin resident to serve as a representative to the Coalition's Board, with a second resident appointed to serve as alternative. In order to join the Coalition, the Town would need to sign on to the Coalition's Joint Powers Agreement.

Discussion followed about aspects of bringing a community power proposal to Town Meeting, including identifying an economical survey process. There was also discussion about the process of installing solar on Town property, which would require an RFP. Revision Energy has worked with other communities including Peterborough through a power purchase agreement. Committee members agreed that it is important to ensure Town property energy usage is monitored, with efficiencies introduced where possible.

Looking ahead to the Committee's next meeting on September 28, with speaker Dori Drachman, Co-Chair of the Monadnock Sustainability Hub and Co-Coordinator of Peterborough Renewable Energy Planning (PREP) Team, it is important to get the word out and encourage Town residents to attend.

August 24, 2022 minutes

On motion made by Jack and seconded by Blake, the minutes of the August 24, 2022 minutes were approved.

Action items:

1. Susan will write an article on Community Power for the October issue of the Dublin Advocate. She will also inform the Select Board of the Committee's recommendation that the Town join the Community Power Coalition of NH.
2. Committee members will spread the word in Town about our September 28 informational meeting with speaker Dori Drachman. Meeting notices will go up at Town Hall and the Post Office and on the Town website. It would also be helpful to hand out meeting notices around Town.
3. It would be very helpful to engage other Town residents in the process of researching community power and other energy solutions to benefit the Town.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 28 at 7 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Susan W. Peters