



Community Power Implementation

Electric Aggregation Committee Agenda & Meeting Minutes

(Tue) 9 November, 8-9am @ 10 Main Street, Harrisville

Debrief: Meetings w/Standard Power, Freedom Energy, continued

Note: Infrastructure bill includes \$50 billion for climate 'resiliency' funding to help mitigate and adapt to the effects of global warming.

Other, to be scheduled

- Community outreach: rate increases ahead of February 2022, a possible community outreach topic
 - [Coming Soon: Drastic Rate Increase for Electricity and Natural Gas](#) [methane], Donald Kreis, NH Center for Public Interest Journalism
 - [An energy crisis is gripping the world, with potentially grave consequences](#), Will Englund, *Washington Post*
 - [The energy crisis is driving prices up. Don't let that stop transitions toward cleaner fuels](#), Catherine Rampell, *Washington Post*

(Tue) 2 November, 8-9am @ Town Hall Meeting Room +Zoom

Attending Committee Members: Andrea Hodson, John Knight, Katie Hamon, Ned Hulbert, Sherry Sims (Andrew Maneval, absent)

The team began to debrief meetings w/Standard Power and Freedom Energy to be continued next week. And tasked John and Katie to scope what it would take to update and/or expand the Town Hall solar array, and add a solar array to the Highway Barn (the Barn was designed to accommodate an array).

(Wed) 27 October 2021, 9-10 @ 10 Main Street, Harrisville +Zoom

Attending Committee Members: Andrea Hodson, Andrew Maneval, John Knight, Katie Hamon, Ned Hulbert, Sherry Sims

Guest: Thomas Carter, Freedom Energy, Mark Cappadona, Colonial

The team met with Thomas Carter and Mark Cappadona to learn more about Freedom Energy (and Colonial Power), and community power implementation services

[Freedom Energy, EAC mtg notes, July 2020](#)

(Tue) 19 October 2021, 9-10 @ Town Hall +Zoom

Attending Committee Members: Andrea Hodson, Andrew Maneval, John Knight, Katie Hamon, Ned Hulbert, Sherry Sims

Guest: Bob Hayden, Standard Power

The team met with Bob Hayden to learn more about Standard Power(and Good Energy), and community power implementation services

[Standard Power, EAC mtg notes, June 2020](#)

12 October 2021, 9-10am @ (Town Hall +Zoom)

Attending Committee Members: Andrea Hodson, Andrew Maneval, John Knight, Katie Hamon, Ned Hulbert, Sherry Sims

- Andrea and Ned shared LES Conference highlights in areas of batteries and micro-grids, EV stations, weatherization and affordable housing, energy efficiency and savings
- Created a discussion framework for upcoming meetings to survey community power implementation options
- The team noted the PUC's recent approved rate increase to 17 cents/KWh for Unitel ratepayers within the context of energy crisis and rising prices for oil and methane (aka natural gas)

5 October 2021, 11-noon @ (Town Hall +Zoom)

Attending Committee Members: Andrew Maneval, John Knight, Katie Hamon, Ned Hulbert, Sherry Sims (Andrea Hodson, absent)

- **Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire**, Ned and Andrew reported on the Incorporation Day proceedings
- **Community Power implementation**, the team discussed the usefulness of Keene's RFP for a vendor to develop a Community Power plan and implement it
- **Local power generation**
 - Andrew described the solar installation in Fitzwilliam.
 - Katie followed up a desktop by Revision is unlikely to provide assistance
- **Meeting schedule** is pending for Standard Power-Good Energy, Freedom Energy, Harrisville Design
- **LES conference**, Andrea and Ned will attend 10/8

[City of Keene, RFP](#) (includes Phase 2)

[CPCNH](#), Incorporation 10/1

[Overview, here](#)

[ReVision Energy](#), [Convergent](#), 9/28 updates

[Local Energy Resources Conference, Friday 10/8](#)

[LES presentation about Harrisville CP, phase 1, Friday 10/8](#) (7.19m)

28 September 2021, 8-9am @ Granite Mill, Suite 104

Attending Committee Members: Andrea Hodson, Andrew Maneval, John Knight, Katie Hamon, Ned Hulbert (Sherry Sims, absent)

- **Supply & services partners:** The team further debriefed the meeting with Rhett Lamb, noting that it will be useful to read the City's RFP for community power implementation, phase 2. Phase 1 as described, involved outsourcing assistance to develop Keene's Community Power Plan, which has been completed and authorized as has Harrisville's Plan. (See 9/14 notes.) The team noted that roughly 200 Keene residents were engaged in the Keene dialogue to shape the Plan.
- **Local power generation projects**
[Site inventory / overview, here](#)
The team discussed summary information about what services are provided by [ReVision Energy](#) (Katie) and [Convergent](#) (Andrea), noting ReVision is a local company whereas Convergent is new to the state. The team agreed it would be useful if either or both organizations would be willing to perform a "desktop" survey of the town to identify and present suggestions what sites lend themselves to possible installations. That would help target municipal and private properties in terms of next steps. Katie and Andrea to follow up.
- **Meeting resources**
 - [ReVision Energy](#) (website)
 - [Convergent](#) (website)
 - [Convergent array/storage, what it looks like](#) (video, 1.11min)
 - [How does solar on capped landfills work?](#) (article, 2019)

14 September, 8-9am (Town Hall +Zoom)

Attending Committee Members: Andrea Hodson, Andrew Maneval, John Knight, Katie Hamon, Ned Hulbert, Sherry Sims + Rhett Lamb, Assistant City Manager, Keene

The Keene experience

The team met with Rhett Lamb to learn more about Keene's approach to Community Power, which the City Council voted to adopt in May:

- Keene hired an outside company (Standard Power - Good Energy) through a Request for Proposal (RFP) process to develop their community power plan (phase 1) and source electricity (phase 2)
- Phase 1, Community participation level was similar to Harrisville's, after which the City Council voted to adopt the community power plan (May)
- Similar to Harrisville's plan, Keene's plan aims to offer competitively priced electricity options to Eversource's default service, and four rate plans with differing amounts of renewable energy (Harrisville's will offer three)
- Unlike Harrisville's plan, it does not include a reserve fund

- Like Harrisville, Keene submitted their plan to PUC for review and approval (forthcoming after PUC or DOE complete rulemaking)
- Phase 2, the same company will help select electricity supply and process enrollment (the plan is the same as Harrisville with respect to opt-out, opt-in rules)

Although Harrisville's EAC completed phase 1, the team agreed it would be informative to review Keene's Request for Proposal description of its phase 2 -- Rhett will send a copy.

Local generation and other items

With remaining time, the team continued its discussion about local power generation, and the utility of consulting with power generation company(s) to better understand process and technical elements (how to identify sites, how local power generation plugs into community power, etc.). Katie, Ned, and Andrea will scope how to develop this and report back at the next meeting.

Meeting resources

[Keene Community Power](#) webpage, which includes the Keene Community Power Plan

[Standard Power - Good Energy](#) website, which includes a description of their joint service

Also see separate websites for [Standard Power](#) and [Good Energy](#)

[Opinion: The New Orleans power outage shows how urgently a climate-resilient power grid is needed](#)

31 August, 8-9am (Granite Mill, Suite 104)

Attending Committee Members: Andrea Hodson, Andrew Maneval, John Knight, Katie Hamon, Ned Hulbert, Sherry Sims

- Continuing discussion about the best way forward to solicit supply-and-services, the team agreed that it would be informative to know more about the Keene community power experience. Ned will invite a representative who can discuss that experience.
- The team reviewed and signed off on the JPA (Joint Powers Agreement) revisions to the version adopted by the Select Board in May
- Committee members nominated Andrea Hodson as Member representative and Director to the Community Power Coalition of NH for Select Board approval. And, Andrew Maneval as Alternate.
- Unsolicited requests and solicitations. The team discussed Convergent Energy & Power's solicitation to explore local power generation, noting that tax credits for investment may be reducing over time, which may in turn discourage investors
- This prompted discussion about the timing and the logistics for setting up local generation projects, the team agreeing there's more to learn in this area. Ned and Andrea will research and come back to the team with more.
- The team noted that HB315 has been signed by the Governor, which frees up the PUC to start in on or resume rulemaking.

17 August 2021, 8-9am (Town Hall +Zoom)

Attending Committee Members: Andrea Hodson, Andrew Maneval, John Knight, Katie Hamon, Ned Hulbert, Sherry Sims

Guests: Henry Herndon, Consultant, City of Lebanon

The team [continued deliberation about an approach to supply-and-service solicitation](#), and whether to recommend that the Select Board leverage the Town's CPCNH (Community Power Coalition NH) membership to participate in a joint solicitation process with other member towns and cities, or endeavor to do so independently.

Either approach would be within the Community Power Plan framework (pursue an independent or joint solicitation). The EAC will need to prepare and explain its recommendation.

The team noted --

- Whereas the EAC thought it was necessary to distribute a solicitation to Commercial Brokers and to the CPCNH, the EAC now understands that CPCNH members already have access to the services necessary to launch CPA programs, and provide retail customers with supply and services through the JPA (adopted by the Select Board in May 2021)
- This means that CPCNH membership affords a joint solicitation with other member towns for a combined supply requirement much larger than the Town's, attracting a broader and more robust interest, presumably yielding more competitive rates and renewable energy options
- CPCNH's joint solicitation will distribute to a pool of 70+ vendors, whereas a Town RFP will reach a more limited pool of vendors, principally, commercial brokers based in the region
- Commercial broker vendors act as "middle-men" between energy generators and customers. Generally they provide a 12- or 24-month, fixed-rate contract. For example, the Town's Standard Power municipal contract that includes a hydro-electric dividend.
- By contrast, energy power management vendors create layered contracts (time, suppliers, terms) which add up to a dynamic energy supply portfolio, and by extension, rates and renewables
- A CPCNH business plan that details this approach is forthcoming. Andrew forwarded the CPCNH business plan to all EAC members for a deeper understanding of CPCNH plans 3-4 years out. This plan will also be a topic of EAC conversation .

The team also noted the difference between for-profit and not-for-profit, and presumed this bears particularly on the reserve fund, with CPCNH providing the reserve fund option to be used to manage rates and create dollar resources for local investment and joint-town collaborations.

The team also considered the return-on-work-effort outcome that would be realized by joining other towns to manage a joint solicitation versus going it alone.

Other:

The team should designate someone to watch the "admit" function of future Zoom meetings to be sure no one who wants to attend is missed

Uploaded [logo artwork](#)

Tap here to view [NH Municipal Solar: Understanding the Changing Solar Energy Landscape, presented Revision Energy](#) recording, has some good basic information (8/18 2021)

August 10, 8-9am @ Granite Mill, Suite 104

Attending Committee Members: Andrea Hodson, Andrew Maneval, John Knight, Katie Hamon, Ned Hulbert, Sherry Sims

- The team debriefed the [8/3 Eversource meeting](#). While comments were generally not of substantive concern, they did refer to details and called out areas that will need to be monitored as the legislation and rulemaking settle:
 - Section 1, items 1-4, The teams noted that established suppliers have established digital protocols for collecting, formatting, transferring account information (the “normal book of business”)
 - The meaning of “automatically enrolled” as it will apply to new ratepayers (post-implementation). There will be a process or protocol by which Eversource will transmit account data, and in this sense it will not be “automatic”.
 - Section 1b, The roles and authorities of the PUC and the newly created DOE are not yet settled and in some areas are confusing and in some respects run contradictory for instance, which agency makes the rules
 - Section 3c, “transmission services” could be confusing or confused with “distribution”
 - Some points related to metering have been changed with HB315 and so the EAC will need to monitor rulemaking regarding meter ownership, billing, etc.
 - Section 3d, Cost allocation for non-participating customers may need to be reviewed
 - Section 3f, second solid bullet item, not the best phrasing as it sounds accusatory
 - Section 3g, reiteration that EAP discount is available based on billing, not supplier
 - Attachment 1, this notes prior legislation
- ... agreed that the team will gather more information pertinent to whether and what recommendation to forward to the Select Board regarding whether to defer plan to issue Harrisville-only RFP, and/or leverage CPCNH membership and participate in issue and review of joint solicitations for power supply
- ... tasked Katie to review and decide on the [logo](#) -- two or three energy bolts

3 August 2021, 8-9am, Town Hall (+Zoom)

Attending Committee Members

Andrea Hodson, Andrew Maneval, John Knight, Katie Hamon, Ned Hulbert, Sherry Sims

- The team met two Eversource representatives involved in community power implementations, Daryush Donyavi, Manager, Electric Energy Supplier Services, and Matthew Fossum, Senior Regulatory Counsel
- Discussion was focused on Eversource observations about the Community Power Plan, namely in terms of how the utility will communicate information to Community Power about new rate payers (Section 1, item 4)
- The team will debrief at the next meeting

27 July 2021, 8-8:45am, Granite Mill, Suite 104

Attending Committee Members

Andrea Hodson, Andrew Maneval, John Knight, Katie Hamon, Ned Hulbert, Sherry Sims

- The team noted, discussed, and/or agreed —

- The next milestone will be to develop an RFP for Community Power services and supply, which will be contingent on Governor Sununu signing the new, prevailing legislation and the PUC completes its rulemaking
- The CP webpage needs to be updated with meeting minutes, and to remove redundant text
- A Community Power logo would be suitable to adopt, pending copyright approval from HHI to use a mill building image
- The team will meet with Eversource on Aug 3: Daryush Donyavi, Manager, Electric Energy Supplier Services, and Matthew Fossum, Senior Regulatory Counsel can attend remotely