

Town of Bow NH
Community Power Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2024

Location: Town of Bow Municipal Building
10 Grandview Road, Bow, NH

Meeting Minutes prepared by:

Michael Markett

Minutes Approved:

FINAL MEETING MINUTES

Attendees

Committee Members:

Robert Trotte, Michael Markett, Russell Anderson Absent: Robyn Sarette, Richard Blake

Guest: Katrin Kasper, Clean Energy NH

Meeting Start: 6:37 pm

Meeting Chair: Russell Anderson

Agenda Items:

1. Approval of meeting minutes from January 3, 2024: **Approved unanimously.**
2. **Discussion Re Follow Up conversations with Standard Power and NHCPC on sourcing of green power:** The Chairman reported that Standard Power obtains all green RECs from ISO NE and thus 100% of RECs are sourced from New England. The Coalition has not purchased RECs yet, they are starting in April and May and are inclined to purchase all RECs from ISO NE.

3. **Follow up Summary from Robyn Sarette's attendance at Merrimack County Community Power information meeting on January 30, 2024.** Robyn submitted her notes from the meeting to the Committee. The Committee took notice of the notes and had a discussion summarized as follows: Merrimack County has established a Power Committee and will adopt a countywide Community Power plan with the Coalition. Any town in Merrimack County can opt in to the Merrimack County plan. Merrimack County will have one delegate on the Coalition's member board. The Committee will continue investigation and obtain answers to some questions to be addressed by next meeting. Depending on receipt of more data, one of our potential recommendations could be to join the Merrimack County Community Power Plan.
4. **Presentation and discussions with Katrin Kasper, Energy Circuit Rider, Clean Energy NH for Clean Energy NH.** Katrin is on Lee Board of Selectman, Town's Energy Committee, as well as a subject matter expert on clean energy and NH community power. The Town of Lee Community Power Committee decided to go with Standard Power. She pointed out that Standard Power has not yet contracted with Lee because Standard Power is waiting for the opportunity to lock in advantageous pricing below prevailing rates. The terms of the power contract being discussed are 12-to-15-month terms, not the 24 to 36-month terms Standard Power represented to our Committee. We infer the steeper the pricing difference from prevailing rates, the shorter the term will be, especially now that pricing has dropped so steeply in the last 6 months. Katrin advised on how the Merrimack County Community Power process will work, similar to what Robyn Sarette recorded in her notes. Any town can opt in to the County Power Plan by a decision of the Town Selectman.

If the Town opts in, any Town resident can opt in to the Community Power Plan rates. The County has not disclosed their rate plan with the Coalition yet. Katrin advised on how to successfully manage town resident and government awareness plan: 1) meet with Town Manager and Selectman for counsel on how best to present our recommendations to the Town; 2) Present to Board of Selectman and publicize that presentation time well in advance to town residents; 3) publicize the Committee's recommendation in advance of Board of Selectman meeting presentation; and 4) public relations and voter education campaign will be easier with power supplier partner and will depend on outcome of Board of Selectman's action on our recommendation.

Katrin departed 7:27pm

5. Discussion on proposed path forward for Community Power and committee's recommendation to the Selectman. The Chairman proposed himself and Committee members meet with Town Manager and Board of Selectman as step 1. We agreed that our recommendation to the Board of Selectman will occur in April and that there was urgency to make some decisions within a few weeks. The Committee agreed to find a time to meet over the next two weeks.

Michael Markett motioned to adjourn, Robert Trotte seconded, Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm

