



TOWN OF STRATHAM

INCORPORATED 1716

10 BUNKER HILL AVENUE STRATHAM NH 03885

VOICE (603) 772-4741 FAX (603) 775-0517

MINUTES FOR STRATHAM ENERGY COMMISSION MEETING Dec 14, 2021

Meeting held at the Stratham Municipal Center

Commission Members:

- Michael Ream
- Matthew O'Keefe
- Charlie Case
- Michael Welty
- Joe VanGombos

Not Present: Michael Ream

Also attending

David Moore Town Administrator
Joe Lovejoy Member Town Select Board

Call to Order: 6:05 PM

1.Minutes from November 9 2021 were approved

2.Community Power – The Town joined the Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) Electricity Aggregation Program in September 2019 to cover Municipal buildings for three years along with five other towns. The benefit of an aggregation program is that it gives a group of participants greater buying power than if each participant negotiated with suppliers on their own – thus reducing cost and increasing use of renewable energy sources. The RPC Electricity Aggregation Program will save Stratham approximately \$27,000 through May 2022 illustrating the benefit of aggregation.

New Hampshire now allows the Town to join aggregation programs which can include residents and small businesses - referred to as Community Power. There are several organizations now that are discussing these new aggregation possibilities with towns and cities in New Hampshire. Henry Herndon, a consultant with Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire (CPCNH), met with the Energy Commission at our November meeting to explain their potential benefits for Stratham. Two other energy brokers, Standard Power and Good Energy, have partnered to provide opportunities in NH for Community Power and are actively working with communities.

It was noted that the Town of Hanover examined Community Power for several years and set up a number of initiatives before joining CPCNH. The Energy Commission plans to



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examine our options carefully before recommending that the Town of Stratham join an aggregation coalition. It is anticipated that this process will take six months. While assessing this, the Energy Commission plans to communicate with residents through the Select Board newsletter, the Energy Commission web site, articles in the Portsmouth Herald and a survey. Previous successes will be highlighted as well, including cost savings from the RPC Electricity Aggregation Program, the Police Station Solar installation (generated 146 MW-hours so far), and the LED Street Light conversion program.

3. Town Utility Cost/Usage Report – Joe VanGombos is in the process of getting Unitil's data to the Town.

4. 2022 Goals –

- A) Community Power
- B) Providing information to Stratham residents

Resources for Cluster Developments and Electric Vehicles will be delayed for now.

Adjourned 7:09 PM

Next meeting will be January 11, 2022

Respectfully submitted – Charlie Case