



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 April 13, 2021

Meeting held at the Stratham Municipal Center

Commission Members:

- Michael Ream
- Matthew O’Keefe
- Charlie Case
- Michael Welty
- Joe Van Gombos

All Commission members were present

Other Attendees: none

7:00 PM Call to Order

- 1) Review Commission Members – Welcomed Joe Van Gombos as a full member. Mike Gorman has moved on and his help over the years is very appreciated. Mike Welty agreed to continue as Commission Chair and Charlie Case agreed to take minutes.
- 2) Going Forward 2021 and Beyond – The Stratham Energy Commission serves as an advisory commission to the Stratham Select Board on issues related to energy, conservation, greenhouse gas reduction and sustainability. The goal of the SEC is to promote and encourage energy conservation measures for Stratham’s residents, businesses and municipal operations. We are pleased to be able to begin meeting again in person.
- 3) Button Up NH– covers the basics of home energy savings. The Energy Commission has sponsored Button Up NH presentations in the past and it was agreed that we should sponsor another one in the near future since there are many new Stratham residents who haven’t benefitted from seeing it. Ted Stiles from Yankee Thermal Imaging makes the presentation via ZOOM and Mike Welty agreed to reach out to him.
- 4) Community Power Coalition NH (CPCNH) - This is a developing organization and it is not clear to us yet how they will function. Community Power is defined by State Law and it appears that CPCNH may overlap



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responsibilities with Unitil. Henry Herndon is currently the CPCNH Member Services Director and in the past has been involved in Clean Energy NH and Energize 360. It was agreed that we would watch CPCNH carefully and possibly invite Henry to join us at a future meeting. Power for the Town municipal buildings is already benefitting from the Rockingham Planning Commission Power Aggregation contract and we should be careful not to lose benefits we now have if the Town decides to join CPCNH at some point in the future. Mike Welty will check with Town Administrator David Moore to find out when our existing Rockingham Planning Commission Power Aggregation contract expires. It was noted that Tom Pfau, co-chair of the Rye Energy Committee, has been active in pursuing Community Power initiatives and that several municipalities in Massachusetts have already set these up.

- 5) Municipal Solar Projects – The solar electric array on the roof of the Police Station was installed and funded by ReVision Energy under a Power Purchase Agreement. This allows for the Town to purchase the array after six years. We are currently in year three. We will revisit possibilities for a large ground mounted solar electric array to provide additional power for municipal buildings.
- 6) Community (Cluster developments) Solar Projects – The Stratham Green Condo Association has installed a large solar electric array in their open field along route 108 to benefit their 67 condo homes. The Planning Board discussed this installation at their February 5, 2020 and August 5, 2020 meetings including conditions, waivers and allowable usage on open space land. There may be an opportunity for the Energy Commission to examine lessons learned here and become a resource for other associations that may also like to use open space for large solar electric arrays. We believe that the Aberdeen West Cooperative is working on a solar electric project, and that the Crockett development may also have an opportunity. It was agreed to invite Jeff Gallagher (President of the Stratham Green Condo Association) and Kim Woods (President of the Aberdeen West Cooperative) to our June meeting.

Adjourned 8:09 PM

Next Meeting: Tuesday May 11, 2021 at 7 pm.

Respectfully submitted – Charlie Case