



TOWN OF STRATHAM

INCORPORATED 1716

10 BUNKER HILL AVENUE STRATHAM NH 03885

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

ACCEPTED MINUTES FOR STRATHAM ENERGY COMMISSION MEETING

August 12, 2025

Meeting held at the Stratham Municipal Center

Commission Members:

- Matthew O'Keefe
- Charlie Case
- Michael Welty
- Joe VanGombos - absent
- Joe Anderson - Select Board Member
- Paul Deschaine

Call to Order: 6:00 PM

July 8, 2025 minutes were approved

Community Power Updates

Recent Stratham Select Board Newsletters included an explanation why the CPCNH electricity supply rate for August 1 to January 31 will increase to 13.7 cents per kwh for customers in the Unitil delivery area. This increase has been largely driven by an unexpectedly high electricity load last winter which affected all suppliers and caused wholesale supply costs (spot market) costs to peak. CPCNH used its reserves to cover the difference.

The cost of supply power appears to be increasing from all suppliers. To be proactive, the Energy Commission plans to look at long term electricity supply options for Stratham Community Power.

The Energy Commission answered three questions from residents relating to cost of electricity supply and how to join Stratham Community Power after installing solar power.

Municipal Solar The Town has started selling Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) earned by the Police Station Solar installation. The first payment of \$135 has been received. Payments will be made every three months.

Community Education Topics

The Energy Commission will work with Diane Smith of Park & Rec (associated with the 76ers group) to schedule a Community Education session on Electric Vehicles at the Fire Station's Morgera room. We will ask McFarland Ford (Exeter) and Green Wave (Hampton) to help. Additional topics that could be of interest to residents include: Heat Pumps, Solar Electric, weatherization, electric rates and questions for likely new CPCNH features such as "time of day



TOWN OF STRATHAM

INCORPORATED 1716

10 BUNKER HILL AVENUE STRATHAM NH 03885

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

rates". The Energy Commission has sponsored the educational "Button Up New Hampshire" program in the past. Diane has alerted us that we should plan a start date in the October/November time frame.

Group Net Metering Offer

The Energy Commission has recommended that the Town Attorney review the proposed Lodestar contract which would provide the Town a small annual payment for being part of their Net Metering electricity load. We have not heard back from the Town Attorney yet.

Clean Energy New Hampshire (CENH)

The Town has re-joined CENH. CENH organizes the annual Local Energy Solutions Conference which will be held this year on September 25th. Matt and Joe V plan to attend. Anna Lee is a new CENH employee who wishes to connect with us. Paul will contact her.

Every third Thursday of the month at 3pm, CENH NH Network hosts a virtual gathering for energy committees and others working on energy-related projects across the state. These meetings are open to anyone and are a great chance to compare notes, ask questions, and learn about new opportunities. Topics this month (August 21) include:

A) Compare notes on what kinds of programs, incentives, and tax credits still exist to support clean energy and energy efficiency in our communities, across all sectors. Monadnock Sustainability Hub and Clean Energy NH will be sharing lists of still current resources they have compiled.

- Clean Energy NH's Funding Sources List
- Monadnock Sustainability Hub's List of Residential Funding Sources

B) Report back from Clean Energy NH on what they heard from 75+ communities in their recent survey: what other communities are working on, what challenges and opportunities they're seeing, etc. Get an orientation to a new contact list of folks in NH working on local energy projects in towns across the state.

Adjourn 6:35 PM