



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 May 10, 2022

Meeting held at the Stratham Municipal Center

Commission Members:

- Michael Ream
- Matthew O'Keefe
- Charlie Case
- Michael Welty
- Joe VanGombos
- **Joe Anderson - Select Board Member**

**Not Present: Michael Ream
Michael Welty**

Others attending: Lester Cuff – Town Resident

Call to Order: 6:00 PM

1. Minutes from April 12, 2022 were reviewed and approved with a change

2. Discussion of Group Net Metering Proposal from Freedom Energy Logistics (FEL) –
As discussed at our April meeting, FEL is organizing a Group Net Metering option with qualified New Hampshire Hydro Generation Companies and Municipalities to help Hydro sell power at a retail rate vs wholesale. This option will enable the Hydro Companies to stay in business and provide renewable energy for New Hampshire. HB 315 identifies Towns, Counties, and Schools as eligible to Group Net Meter and share in the revenue stream for participating. The Energy Commission agreed that this opportunity was worth pursuing and reviewed a proposed "Group Member Agreement" from FEL. We flagged the provision for early termination in the standard agreement which requires an early termination fee.

After discussion, FEL has agreed that Stratham would be able to terminate their "Group Member Agreement" with 90 days notice and no early termination fee. The Energy Commission will seek Select Board approval at a future meeting. If approved, next steps will be for the Town to submit information on eligible participating electricity accounts to FEL, FEL will then generate the final agreement for execution by both parties.



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3. Media/Public Outreach – Joe VanGombos drafts for Select Board Newsletter – Media outlets for public outreach include the Select Board newsletter, Seacoast Media Group, the Town Facebook page, Clean Energy NH, and the Stratham Magazine. Joe provided a draft of an article “Spring 2022 – Reviewing Success of Town Solar Investment”. A summary of Joe’s article: The 120 solar panels have exceeded projected power production for the past three years. Revision Energy funded and installed the panels on the roof of the Police Station under a Power Purchase Agreement where the Town pays Revision for solar power generated at a negotiated rate for six years. At that point the Town has the option of purchasing the system at a percentage of its value at that time providing the Town with 45,000 kwh of electricity from a Town owned system.

Joe also suggested we postpone to the fall a proposed article for the Energy Commission to promote “competitive supply” for Town Residents.

4. Discussion of Solar Array buyout plan – Matt will verify with David Moore that the Town has an account in the Capital Plan to buy the Police Station solar installation from Revision Energy after six years under the PPA agreement.

5. Utility Incentive opportunities for Municipal Center HVAC project – Joe VanGombos raised the issue again that changing from propane powered HVAC systems to more efficient Heat Pump HVAC systems would qualify for incentives from Unitil. The Energy Commission discussed this possibility with Nate Mears at our July 2021 meeting. At that time, Nate was not convinced that heat pumps are the right choice. We plan to provide an efficiency comparison to Nate.

Adjourn: 6:45 PM

Next meeting will be June 21, 2022 at 6 PM

Respectfully submitted – Charlie Case