



# TOWN OF STRATHAM

INCORPORATED 1716

10 BUNKER HILL AVENUE STRATHAM NH 03885

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

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## MINUTES FOR STRATHAM ENERGY COMMISSION MEETING Aug 8, 2023

### Meeting held at the Stratham Municipal Center

#### Commission Members:

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

#### Call to Order: 6:00 PM

#### May 9, 2023 minutes approved

The Energy Commission will take over the Electric Aggregation Plan approval process from here on. The Energy Aggregation Committee provided a completed Plan to the Select Board which approved it on July 31 and it was submitted to the Public Utilities Commission for their approval on August 1. Charlie will make sure all requirements of PUC chapter 2200 are met for the steps needed to prepare for Stratham Community Power launch, and will coordinate answering any questions from the PUC about our plan.

Henry Herndon told David Moore that the PUC has not required changes to any Plan submitted for approval so far. If the PUC requests a change in our Plan, we would hustle to make the change and resubmit. We should probably not put out a notice for the Special Town Meeting until after we get the PUC approval.

One issue needs to be resolved for all Towns – at this point any resident with Net Metering is prevented from joining Stratham Community Power due to State requirements. Charlie to contact Henry Herndon for the latest update.

Consensus for a Special Town Meeting is a weeknight starting at 7 PM. Preference is Thursday Oct 26. Henry is available to support the Town Meeting on any Thursday or most Saturdays. We need to alert him as soon as the Select Board decides on a date. The Select Board will decide on the date and time soon. Henry told David that an October Town Meeting approval would give us enough time to launch with the April 2024 group. This Town Meeting will be exclusively for a vote on the Electric Aggregation Plan.



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The Select Board must post a notice 16 days before a Town Meeting. Target the October 2 Select Board meeting on the draft Warrant Article which David will write.

Outreach to Residents – Targeted Outreach can be more effective than another info session. This outreach will be a campaign for the Warrant Article. If we aren't proactive, Stratham Community Power could be regarded by residents as a "snoozer". We need a schedule for outreach and we need a brief "elevator speech" that we will all use.

Joe Anderson determined that about 40 people show up to all Town Meetings and half of those are Town employees or are on Committees. Another 80 go to most Town Meetings. Joe has a list. Matt will ask Scott (did Public Hearing set ups) if there was a sign up sheet for attendees.

## Proposed Tasks –

1. Do a personal outreach to as many of the people that typically attend Town Meeting or one of the Public Hearings as possible.
2. Update the Energy Aggregation Committee web site and retitle it as Stratham Community Power, This includes a simplified writeup and deletion of links we no longer need.
3. SEC should take over the Select Board newsletter on the weeks that the SB doesn't send one out,
4. Ask selected people to speak in favor at the Town Meeting,
5. Attend meetings of other Committees where we could reach more people with the elevator speech. Ask for 5 minutes at the beginning of each meeting. Lisa Sweet told us the Rye did this and said it was helpful.
6. Facebook opportunities. Town Facebook site and various Stratham Neighborhood Facebook sites.
7. Hold "office hours" at the Municipal Center where people could drop in – include evening, daytime and a Saturday.
8. Friday morning coffee with the Stratham Seniors,
9. Fire Assn meeting,
10. Sept 15 news release.

Joe and Charlie to meet Aug 16 9 AM at the Municipal Center to come up with a detail plan and the elevator speech.

Adjourned 7:30 PM

Respectfully submitted - Charlie Case