



TOWN OF DURHAM
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NOTICE: ALTHOUGH MEMBERS OF THE DURHAM ENERGY COMMITTEE WILL BE MEETING IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, THE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO PARTICIPATE VIA ZOOM OR IN PERSON.

**DURHAM ENERGY COMMITTEE
Tuesday May 2, 2023
7:00 – 8:30 PM**

Attendees:

Wayne Burton
Matt Davis
Steve Holmgren
Jack Lannaman
Emily Friedrich
Townsend Zwart
Nat Balch
Todd Selig

Not in Attendance:

Ty Crossman
Mike Klein
Bianca Leonard

- I. Approval of Agenda -moved/approved.
- II. Selection of Chairperson
 - a. Functions
 - i. Develop agenda
 - ii. Attend meetings with UNH Sustainability Fellow
 - iii. Attend Energy Considerations Checklist Reviews
 - b. Matt Davis volunteered to participate in Energy Considerations Checklist reviews
 - c. Nat Balch volunteered to attend weekly meetings of UNH Sustainability Fellows
 - d. Emily moved that Wayne Burton will be interim chair for now-approved unanimously. Formal candidates at future meetings

are encouraged to submit a summary of their vision going forward if elected.

III. Public Comments-

< Matthias Dean-Carpenter- Energy Systems engineer (Distributed Sun, Washington, DC) expressed interest in participating in the Energy Committee in some capacity. Expressed interested in net metering, solar canopies, EV charging stations.>

<Mike Glover question to Matthias Dean Carpenter: How much of the instillation of a solar roof is tied up in bureaucracy, and how much can be made less cumbersome/inefficient with regard to permitting? Response: Tariffs and fees paid to ship equipment are major factors.

<Mike Lehrman -interested in energy issues regarding buildings/built environment. Interested in participating in the Energy Committee. >

<Mike Glover- Discussion regarding EV charging stations for Chargepoint, \$5,000 cost plus a cloud fee. The alternative would be unmetered charging stations, which could provide free electricity instead of paying upfront to Chargepoint. Townsend recommended making this topic a future agenda item. >

<Todd Selig noted that UNH and the town are working together to plan for additional EV charging stations.>

<Jack provided the following recognition of Jim Lawson's term of service as chair of the Energy Committee, 2022-2023. This was moved and approved unanimously. >

"Whereas Jim Lawson, who was already serving the town in multiple ways including his extensive responsibilities as town councilor, stepped up to fill the vacant chair position on the Durham Energy Committee. And further, in recognition that in this leadership role Jim Lawson moved the committee forward by developing important initiatives that guide Durham toward a more sustainable energy future, for these reasons and for his generosity in sharing his competence, his time, and his collegiality, be it resolved that the Durham Energy Committee expresses its deep appreciation for his extraordinary service."

IV. Discussion with Dan Ray – Raymond Programs: (Dan Ray could not attend tonight’s meeting): Emily discussed efforts by Raymond to implement renewable energy projects in their town. Emily noted that Durham has led the state in some aspects of renewable energy, while other municipalities have been pulling ahead of Durham. In order for Durham to meet its goals for 2030-2035, we need to explore additional avenues for advancing renewable energy goals. Nat Balch suggested exploring a paid Energy Manager position. Emily suggested having this done on a volunteer basis. Emily recommended the town apply for a prize available for implementing weatherization grants.

V. RSA 79-E Discussion

Tax credits for state energy revitalization projects- Implications of whether implementing this will impact property taxes. Most of the time these do not impact property taxes. For instance, tax relief for energy storage does not increase assessed property value. Emily suggested that Durham could embrace policy that energy improvements on property be exempt from tax implications. Todd discussed details of how this taxation might work. Steve asked what incentives might be available to landowners.

VI. Durham Day Planning

June 3, 2023, 66 Main St. Jack mentioned that he would not be available for displaying Solar Panels. An informal working session for Durham Day planning will take place at 7 PM on May 23 in the upstairs conference room.

VII. General Updates and Discussion

- a. UNH Updates -Matt discussed an upcoming project pertaining a grant pertaining to Combined Heat and Power (CHP).
- b. EV Charging Stations- Jack announced an all-time record of 1.922MWh 1,365 greenhouse gases saved.
- c. Updates from the Administrator – The climate adaptation chapter of the Master plan is before the council for review. Rafidah Rahman has ended her tenure, and Erin Dennehy will

start in June. Reporting for GCOM has not appeared to be particularly cost effective.

- d. Community Power- 23 towns are now on board. Eversource has been dragging its feet. Over the next two months 75,000 customers are anticipated to cut over. A CEO has been hired. Steve is now on the board for a one-year term, and is on the Member Engagement and Operations Committee.

VIII. Approval of Minutes – March 7, 2023- Jack requested that the GHG figure be revised 1,184 kg. Motion approved.

IX. Other Business

X. Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 9:15.