

Town of Candia Community Power Committee Unapproved Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 12, 2023
Location: Town Office Building - Public Hearing

Attendees: Kevin Coughlin (Chairman)
Dick Snow (absent)
Beth Chalbeck
William Saffie
Ryan Young
Brenda Coughlin (Secretary) (absent)
Emily Mann (Zoom) Standard Power

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Coughlin opened the meeting at 6:38 PM by a motion from Beth Chalbeck, second by William Saffie

Public Hearing Information

Kevin Coughlin introduced Dan Roy (Raymond NH) he is present to listen to meeting as Raymond is beginning the process of developing a plan forecasted for next year sometime.

Emily Manns presented an overview of the purpose of this community which virtually is for cost savings and committee progress including a slide presentation (see attached slides and audio for explanation). Included in the plan will be renewable energy options which currently aren't available with current suppliers. The most recent survey of the town showed 51% wanted lowest rate and the remaining showed 40% wanted renewable energy if costs could be the same as today and 9% wanted 100% renewable energy. This survey was remarkable because it was taken during the recent increase by Eversource. Product options are considered by community input, committee feedback, & BOS but Standard Power recommends adding a very small percentage to the default in order to add more renewables going forward. Currently SP is working with 12 communities and all are choosing 4 products. Sommerville Mass plan was reviewed at length. Everyone will be added to the program and can opt out. Standard Power will not add anyone into the program without demonstrated cost savings compared to their current supplier. Net meter and subsidized customers will have access to this plan. Currently the committee is creating a draft plan based on public input, then ask the voters to approve the plan. The plan is then submitted to the PUC which has 60 days to review and then when approved by PUC we then go to the suppliers for customer bases and go to bid for prices. Once the plan is ready to launch every eligible customer will receive a mailer with prices and instructions on how to opt out if they choose.

Ryan Young asked at what point are options provided and how many are usually given for contract design. Will you be providing X-rate for X-length of time?

Emily Manns the process with Standard Power, we will provide you with recommendations. This will happen after the plan is approved by the PUC.

Mark Chalbeck (audience) asked if the community signs the contract with the supplier, are we guaranteeing to the supplier that we will buy X-number of kilowatts?

Emily Manns said no, the supplier assumes all the risks. The supplier will still honor the contracts

whether there is one person participating or all residents.

Kevin Coughlin reminded the deliberative session is scheduled for February 4, 2023. The public hearing was motioned to be closed by Beth Chalbeck, second by William Saffie at 7:12 pm. Motion unanimously approved.

Kevin Coughlin announced the warrant article was approved by the Selectboard to go to the ballot with a vote of 3-2. The two Selectman who voted against was focused on the step that all eligible residents would be automatically enrolled but can OPT OUT. They feel it should be an OPT IN program. The committee will educate the town when the mailer goes out. This was the second public hearing tonight. Emily will be sending out the final draft for our review. We don't anticipate any changes. Discussion regarding putting in an FAQ flyer into the Boy Scout packet distribution before the Town voting date. Standard Power will pay for the flyer. Posting the slides to Face Book would be a good thing to do.

Next Meeting is February 8, 2023 @ 6:30 PM.

With there being no further business or questions,

Beth Chalbeck motioned to adjourn the meeting
William Saffie seconds motion
Motion unanimously approved.
Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm

Submitted by: Brenda Coughlin, Secretary