

MINUTES OF THE

ENERGY COMMITTEE

September 30, 2024

The Energy Committee held its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, September 30, 2024, at the Salem Town Hall Upstairs Conference Room, 33 Geremonty Drive, Salem, NH.

Committee Members Present: Stephen Boyd; Bonnie Wright, Lisa Withrow, Crayton Brubaker

Other: Bart Fromuth, Freedom Energy Logistics; Stuart Ormsbee, Colonial Power Group

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm.

MOTION BY: Crayton Brubaker

Move to approve draft minutes of the September 25, 2024 meeting as presented

SECOND BY: Lisa Withrow

VOTE: 3-0

The motion passed unanimously.

Stephen Boyd joined the meeting at 4:21pm

The Committee reviewed the draft Salem Electric Aggregation Program for potential clarification and revisions. The Committee reviewed and discussed or changed the following:

- Discussed Page 5, Section 3 regarding equitable treatment among customer classes. Mr. Ormsbee clarified what this meant. Large commercial customers can more easily buy energy on the open market. Customer groups will be treated equitably under the plan.
- Discussed generality of the plan.
- Discussed Town Manager authority as program administrator, responsibility at program launch, and responsibility for potential program termination.
 - Added ‘Town Manager’ instead of just ‘Town’ on Page 8, Section 6, first sentence, first line
 - Added ‘Town Manager’ instead of just ‘Town’ on Page 9, Section 6A, first sentence
 - Added ‘Town Manager’ instead of just ‘Town’ on Page 19, Section 15, first sentence
- Discussion regarding mailing costs. The Town does not pay for mailing costs of the program.
- Discussion on applicable parts of the charter.
- Discussion about goals of having lowest cost option being default, an option of more renewable energy as an “opt up” part of the program (not default).
- Discussion about logistics of a renewable energy option. Liberty Utilities would still be responsible for fixing / distributing energy and bills. Mr. Fromuth explained the RFP

1 process, qualified vendors approved by the PUC, specifics of higher renewable option
2 not being a default option.

3

4 **MOTION BY: Bonnie Wright**

5 *Move to accept the Salem Electric Aggregation Plan as amended.*

6 **SECOND BY: Lisa Withrow**

7 **VOTE: 4-0**

8 **The motion passed unanimously.**

9

10 Mr. Formuth discussed public outreach being more intensive right before the vote at Town
11 Meeting and at program launch rather than during plan development, given his experience in
12 other communities. The Committee discussed doing an SCTV video and podcast opportunity for
13 public promotion of the plan prior to Town Meeting.

14

15 The Committee decided to hold the two public hearings at the Town Council November 4 and
16 December 2 meetings to meet the statutory requirements.

17

18 There are no additional meetings planned. The Committee may need to meet again prior to Town
19 Meeting but will determine that at a later date.

20

21 **MOTION BY: Crayton Brubaker**

22 *Move to adjourn at 4:49 pm.*

23 **SECOND BY: Lisa Withrow**

24 **VOTE: 4-0**

25 **The motion passed unanimously.**

26

27 **ADJOURNMENT AT 4:49 pm.**

28

29 Notes/minutes taken by: Crayton Brubaker