**MINUTES**

**Bethlehem Energy Commission**

**Tuesday Dec 5, 2023**

**6:00 pm at the Bethlehem Library**

**Agenda**

Attending: Chuck Phillip Dan Crosby, Scott Caisse, Mary Lou Krambeer, David Van Houten, Bruce Caplain.

Melissa Elander joined by phone. Meeting chaired by Scott.

Mission: The Bethlehem Energy Commission encourages and supports economically and environmentally sensible energy practices in Bethlehem, NH.

**Minutes** from November meeting: Motion to accept: David, second: Chuck; unanimously accepted.

**Public input** - Chris Dube (Franconia), Jim Fitzpatrick (Franconia), Mark Koprowski (Bethlehem)

Discussed upcoming Dec 7 and Dec 14 Community Power Public Hearings

**Community Power** and upcoming public hearings: Hearing on Thursday, Dec 7 and Dec 14 at 6PM at Profile High School Sugar Hill, Franconia, Bethlehem are doing a joint presentation. Melissa and Fitz were on a call with Andrew today to finalize the presentation.

**TO DO:** Each Town will have a link on their website with the Community Power PowerPoint and the emerging aggregation plan. Dan will chair meeting and Fitz will handle Q&A session.

TO DO: Mary Lou contact Courier and Caledonian about meetings

**Village district progress** check-in –trees have come down, land leveled, and posts are about ready to be put up. Should be completed by Spring. DES is quickly turning around request for reimbursement funds.

**Main Street Solar –** Bruce said the first application was filed, lots of paperwork involved. First round involves Super Secret Ice Cream, PMR (is working directly with Clean Energy New Hampshire), Rosa’s, Maia Papaya.

**Draft Solar Energy Property Tax Exemption warrant article** – *Solar Energy Systems up to 100kW will be exempt from property valuation assessments as long as the primary purpose of energy generated by the system is either: consumed on-site; net-metered; or group net-metered. Solar Energy Systems with a primary purpose of selling to the grid for profit will not be exempt.*

TO DO: Scott will rewrite and circulate. Melissa will run it by CENH attorney about wording.

 <https://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/v/72/72-62.htm>

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**Solarize North Country** – Lots of tours and meetings with perspective solar consumers. 70 people signed-up for estimates. Hope to get 140 signed-up for estimates. We hope to get 25-30 installations solar in 2024.

**Other** – Suggested Reading: *How the World Really Works*, Vaclav Smil

Eversource now has a time of day rate on their bills

**Next meeting**: **Tuesday, January 2 at 6PM** at Bethlehem Library; David will chair the meeting

TO DO: David will contact library

**Adjourn –** 7:10 pm