

MINUTES OF THE SOMERSWORTH COMMUNITY POWER COMMITTEE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
November 21, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Councilor Matt Gerding, Chairman
Councilor David Witham
Laura Barry, Resident Representative
Chris Horton, Planning Board Representative
Timothy Bascom, Business Owner Representative (Arrived at 4:04)

Committee Members Absent: Councilor David A. Witham

Administration/Staff Present: City Manager, Bob Belmore
Finance Director, Scott Smith
City Clerk, Kristen LaPanne

APPROVE PAST MEETING MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 9, 2023

Mr. Horton made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of November 9, 2023. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barry and passed 3-0.

SOMERSWORTH COMMUNITY POWER ELECTRIC AGGREGATION PLAN

Councilor Gerding asked the Committee if they had any further ideas or changes regarding the draft Electric Aggregation Plan provided by City staff. City Manager Belmore noted that the Committee's updates are highlighted throughout the document.

Mr. Horton stated that he appreciated the email that Manager Belmore included in their materials regarding the risk and mitigation as it pertains to the Committee, Council and the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire. Manager Belmore directed the Committee to page 2 of the Electric Aggregation Plan where he and Deputy City Manager Smith are named as the member representatives to participate in the Coalition's membership meetings. He let the Committee know that the City Council will need to formally appoint them as the member representatives, and he anticipates that will happen at the next City Council meeting.

FINALIZE GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Councilor Gerding directed the Committee to page 6 of the Electric Aggregation Plan which lists the Somersworth Community Power Goals and Objectives developed by the Committee. The Committee had no additional changes or ideas to offer. Councilor Gerding stated that he is confident in the plan developed by the Committee and he believes that it fits the Community well. The Committee agreed.

NEXT STEP – NEXT MEETING DATE

The Committee discussed the requirement of two public hearings before the Council can vote to approve the Electric Aggregation Plan. City Manager Belmore and Director Smith confirmed that the first public hearing could be held within a Community Power Committee meeting and the second held during a Council meeting. The Committee agreed that it would be a good idea in order to follow the timeline provided by the Community Power Coalition to join the program in June 2024. After the Council's approval of the Plan, the minutes of the meeting must be sent to the Public Utility

Commission. Manager Belmore stated that he submitted the City's seal for the logo design to the City's Liaison at Community Power Coalition of NH.

Mr. Horton made a motion to recommend that the Somersworth Community Power Electric Aggregation Plan be submitted to the full Council as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Barry and passed 4-0.

Councilor Gerding suggested having a meeting prior to the City Council meeting scheduled on December 11th, in order for the Committee to hold a public hearing prior to the City Council public hearing. The Committee agreed to meet on December 7th at 5:00 p.m.

The Committee agreed that it would be beneficial to invite the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire representative to attend both of the public hearings to answer questions. City Manager Belmore stated that he would reach out to Henry Herndon to request his attendance, as well as to confirm next steps.

MISCELLANEOUS

City Manager Belmore provide the Committee with a Spring 2024 Rate Setting Schedule that was reviewed by the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bascom made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Horton and passed 4-0. The meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen LaPanne, City Clerk