



TOWN OF HUDSON

Sustainability Committee

Minutes



Town Hall, 12 School, Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-886-6018 • Fax: 603-594-1143

November 25, 2024
Buxton Meeting Room -7:00pm

1. **Call to Order: at 7pm**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Public Input:** Robert Larson of 25A Lund Dr, Hudson, applicant for Sustainability Committee. Mr. Larson offered a brief description of his background and pertinent capabilities and his desire to contribute to the committee.
 1. **Attendance:** Alyssa Hanley (excused absence), Kate Messner, Chris Thatcher, Bob Guessferd -Selectman Liaison (excused absence), Craig Putnam (alt), Karl Hubert, Deb Putnam (Chairperson), Jake Keller, Ed Thompson.
 2. **Approval of Minutes:** October 28, 2024 – Ed Thompson (included in Packet) Motion to approve by K. Messner, second by C. Thatcher. Motion passed unanimously.
 3. **Reports:**
 - **Trash-Recycling Tonnage Report:** 22.49% (Report included in Packet)
 - **Expenditure Report:** Two checks were accidentally sent to Clean Energy for a Municipal Membership. The second check will be returned by Clean Energy and the \$300.00 credited back into the committee's account. (Report was included in Packet. It shows two \$300.00 disbursements) Correct balance is \$736.50.
 4. **Hudson Transfer Station:** As of July 1, each residence serviced by curbside collection will be allowed to purchase up to three additional Passes at \$30.00 per pass each calendar year. The dates the Transfer Station will be open: **Nov 30th and Dec 28th** - 8:00am-12:00noon. The Transfer Station is open for yard waste, metal & cardboard drop-offs 8am-12noon every Saturday but **only April through November- NO** Pass is required. Thus, the Transfer Station will **not** be open on Saturdays in December until the beginning of April for metal, cardboard, and yard waste other than the scheduled Transfer Station Open Dates. DPW offices are open Monday-Thursday 6:00am – 4:00pm - 2 Constitution Drive, Hudson. The Saturdays the Transfer Station will be open in 2025 should be released before this committee's meeting on December 16, 2024. See the town website for more information.
 5. **Hazardous Waste Collections:** The 2024 collection season has ended. The next collection event will be in April 2025. Update-Cost: \$20 fee per vehicle, for up to 10 gallons (liquids) or 20 pounds (solids). Cash or check accepted, carpooling encouraged. **No Latex/Acrylic Paint, No Electronics, No Medications**

For more information and a complete list of accepted items, please visit: <http://www.nashuarpc.org/hhw> or call 603-417-6570. NOTE: Old medications can be dropped off at the Hudson Police Department. Syringes (in a hard-shell container) can be dropped off at local hospitals SNHMC and St. Joe's Hospital.

- 6. Holiday Lights Recycling Program** – Five decorated collection boxes were deployed by the start of the program – November 11th. Four boxes (one each) went to the Rec. Department (Community Center), Senior Center, Town Hall, and Rodgers Memorial Library. A fifth decorated box was delivered to Karl who will manage the collection at Shepards Hill.

The decorated boxes include an 11”X17” banner promoting and explaining the recycling program. A copy of the 11’X17” banner is included in the packet. A one-page flyer was emailed to the Rec. Department + Senior Center, Troop 20, the Lions Club and the Hudson Litchfield Rotary Club for them to distribute to their members via email. Troop 20 was advised that they are welcome to modify the Word docx as they wish to better serve their programs and goals – Christmas Tree Collection + Collection of broken strings of lights.

- 7. Clean Energy Conference** - Jake Keller and Karl Huber attended the conference and shared information. J. Keller explained that NH reps are planning to present another bill to catch up energy efficiency code up to 2021 code. 2015 code currently. Must weigh between cost of construction vs energy efficiency. Mentioned that NH Saves is offered to families trying to save energy costs. IRA (Inflation Reduction Act) will be affecting NH with energy rebates on heat pumps kicking near the end of next year.

J. Keller discussed what Community power programs were doing. Working on reduced rates that net meter users with solar power (load reducers). Program is out a way timewise, however.

Met with several vendors including Revision (efficient insulation), Encore Renewable Energy (composting) and Northeast Electrical (lighting projects). Electric school buses like those at Henniker School system were expanded on and is a topic that the chairperson asked attending members to investigate further.

- 8. Hudson Community Power** – Craig & Kate updated members on the current statistics for Hudson Community Power as well as activities related to CPCNH. C. Putnam – four town associated with overlayed programs over the existing CPCNH basic program. Enrollment – no changes. New Customers go back to Eversource by default, and they would have to opt for CPCNH. CPCNH will have the annual report provided to the TOH this year. The new rate period will start Feb 1, 2025. New one year program is being introduced, but only for commercial and industrial customers. These “non-residential” rates have been set. This is an opt-in program. See website: <https://www.communitypowernh.gov/annual-rate>

CPCNH new program is now offered for net metering solar customers. They can now sell their recs for surplus energy. See <https://www.cpcnh.org/rec> for more information.

CPCNH has also signed a term sheet with a 5MW solar project that will probably be structured as a group net metering project. Payout would be 1-1.5 cents/kW-hr through 2040.

- 9. Community Roadside Cleanup (CRC) Subcommittee**– K. Huber gave an update for the subcommittee regarding the progress made to date regarding activating the pages on the Town Website. Policies and procedures are up and available for viewing. <https://www.hudsonnh.gov/bc-sc/page/community-roadside-cleanup-0>

- 10. Composting Subcommittee Updates:** C. Thatcher updated members on recent activities. The Hudson Lions Club is interested in promoting composting, but their schedule did not allow time for D. Putnam to present at a recent meeting. Data has been requested from the Town Admin. A recent Zoom meeting of the subcommittee resulted in a couple of phone calls with the goal of gathering info. The whole idea is to divert waste away from the landfill which would save money for the town. There was a Nov 20th Zoom

call recap meeting. Still gathering information from the transfer station on budgets and looking at the school systems and what positive impact composting could make to their budgets.

- 11. Budget for 2025 to 2026:** The opportunity to present to the BOS asking for an increase in the Sustainability Committee's budget for 2024-2025, has expired.

In 2025, the committee must prepare to present to the BOS by the end of August to allow time for any request to increase the 2025-2026 budget to be considered.

- 12. Hydro Group Net Metering Options for Hudson presented by Howard Plante, of Freedom Energy Logistics.** Members agreed to table discussion until the Jan 2025 meeting.

- 13. The next meeting** – December 16, 2024, at 7pm.

- 14. Committee Member & Selectman Liaison Comments:** Chairperson D. Putnam asked if we still had to go to BOS for RSC permission for cleanups. Members agreed that this is no longer required. E. Thompson encouraged to watch "Buy Now" the Shopping Experience on Netflix regarding the unsustainable nature of the planet's consumerism and production of non-biodegradable waste.

- 15. Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn by C. Thatcher, seconded by K. Huber. Motion passed anonymously. Meeting adjourned @ 8:17pm

Edward Thompson
Hudson Sustainability Committee, Secretary

December 12, 2024