



TOWN OF HUDSON

Sustainability Committee

Minutes



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

December 16, 2024
Buxton Meeting Room -7:00pm

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting start @ 7pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Public Input:** None
4. **Attendance:** Kate Messner, Chris Thatcher, Craig Putnam (alt), Karl Huber (absent), Debbie Putnam (Chair), Robert Larson (new member). Jake Keller (absent), Ed Thompson (absent). Alyssa Hanley (absent). Bob Guessferd (Selectman Liaison (absent)).
5. **Approval of Minutes:** from November 25, 2024 – Motion to approve by C. Thatcher, seconded by C. Putnam. Motion passed unanimously.
6. **Reports:**
 - **Trash-Recycling Tonnage Report:** 22.53% (Report included in Packet)
 - **Expenditure Report:** Current balance is \$736.50.
7. **Hudson Transfer Station:** The Transfer Station will be open **Dec 28th - 8:00am-12:00noon**. Yard Waste/ Leaf Pick up will be on Monday, December 23rd. All bags **MUST** be out **BY 6AM**. If questions – call Mike at Casella at 603-623-7933. DPW offices are open Monday-Thursday 6:00am – 4:00pm - 2 Constitution Drive, Hudson. The newly revised Residential Solid Waste & Recycling Guide will be released just after January 1, 2025. See the DPW section of the town website for more information.
8. **Hazardous Waste Collections:** The next collection event will be in April 2025. 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.
9. **Holiday Lights Recycling Program** – Is well underway with 100lbs collected as of Dec. 12th. Four boxes (one each) are at the Rec. Department (Community Center), Senior Center, Town Hall, and Rodgers Memorial Library. A fifth collection box is being managed by Karl at Shepards Hill.
A second half page Ad was in the Dec. 12 edition of the Hudson Times. A PSA is available on HCTV Channel 6- Hudson Sustainability Presents: Recycle Your Lights

10. Hudson Community Power – Craig & Kate updated members on recently released information regarding Hudson Community Power as well as activities related to CPCNH.

The current account is slightly over 8700 customers (69% of town of Hudson). 99.6% of customers have chosen Granite Basic.

The new rate period will start Feb 1, 2025. The goal is to publish the new Rate Chart in the Hudson Times once it is officially released. The committee needs to vote on an expenditure not to exceed \$200.00 during the December meeting in anticipation of the rate chart being released in January.

Eversource Rate: An 8.9 cent rate being proposed for the next rate.

Motion by K. Messner to approve expenditure not to exceed \$200 for publishing a new rate in Hudson Times. Seconded by B. Larson. Motion passed unanimously.

11. Community Roadside Cleanup (CRC) Subcommittee– The policies and procedures are up and available for use: <https://www.hudsonnh.gov/bc-sc/page/community-roadside-cleanup-0>

12. Composting Subcommittee Updates: The subcommittee is taking a break until January. The Sustainability Committee wishes to remind all that the goal is to divert waste away from the landfill which would save the town (taxpayers) money. The request for financial information on the transfer station budget and operations has been submitted. There is a special focus on the school system and the positive impact composting could have on their budgets. The subcommittee and the Sustainability Committee expect more progress after the January meeting of the Sustainability Committee.

13. Budget: In 2025, the committee must present to the BOS by the end of August to allow time for any request to increase the 2026-2027 budget to be considered.

14. 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.

15. Annual Report: Review and edits made to reach a “Final” version.

16. The Future: The Sustainability Committee membership slots are all full for the first time in many years. The Chair wishes to thank all members and alternates for their hard work! January will be the time to strategize about changes to make going forward. One goal is more involvement in matters that are connected to the Sustainability Committee’s **Mission Statement:**

The Sustainability Committee aims to increase energy efficiency, recycling, and proper waste disposal throughout the town of Hudson, New Hampshire. We promote sustainability best practices in our community through community outreach and public events. We advocate for the implementation of green policies, practices, and technologies to ensure a more sustainable town.

In order to attain these goals, we look to improve communication and collaboration with the departments, boards and committees in the Town of Hudson. Communication with the Selectmen Liaison and the DPW Director, as an ex officio member, is critical to optimizing the effectiveness of the Sustainability Committee.

All members and alternates are invited to share their ideas and thoughts on how to proceed.

17. The next meeting – January 27, 2025 at 7pm.

18. Committee Member & Selectman Liaison Comments:

Selectman Heidi Jacoby was in the audience and commented on the status of the old landfill site regarding its cap. She explained that a study was being conducted and the BOS was waiting for the report from that study.

C. Putnam mentioned that there are opportunities for other savings with CPCNH and said we could explore those this year.

D. Putnam thanked residents for their continued efforts in cleaning up the town. Please don't burn your wrapping paper in your fireplace. They should be disposed of properly into your trash bins.

19. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by C. Thatcher seconded by K. Messner. Meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

Edward Thompson
Hudson Sustainability Committee, Secretary Jan 23, 2024