



TOWN OF HUDSON

Sustainability Committee

Minutes



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

January 27, 2025

1. **Call to Order:** at 7pm at the Buxton Meeting Room
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Public Input:** None
4. **Attendance:** Kate Messner, Chris Thatcher, Bob Guessferd (Selectman Liaison), Ed Thompson, Craig Putnam (alt), Karl Huber, Jake Keller, Bob Larson, Debra Putnam (Chair). Alyssa Hanley (absent).
5. **Presentation by the Climate and Sustainability Group at Alvirne HS.** This presentation was postponed until the March meeting. The invitation to present to the Sustainability Committee had been extended by Chris Thatcher. Science Teacher Kathleen Murphy responded positively to the invitation. The idea is to work on ways the Sustainability Committee can help the group attain their goals regarding recycling and composting along with other goals they have identified.
6. **Approval of Minutes:** from December 16, 2024 – E. Thompson made a motion to defer approval until Feb, seconded by K. Messner. Motion passed unanimously.
7. **Reports:**
 - **Trash-Recycling Tonnage Report:** 22.72% (Report included in Packet)
 - **Expenditure Report:** Current balance is \$736.50. This balance does not reflect the expenditure of \$187.00 to publish the CPCNH Supply Rates starting Feb. 1 in the January 9th issue of the Hudson Times.
8. **Hudson Transfer Station:** The new “**2025 Solid Waste Brochure**”, also showing up as the “2025 Residential Solid Waste and Recycling Guide,” is now available 24/7 through both the DPW Home Page and the Sustainability Committee Home Page. **CASELLA** created the multi-page document 9 (included in Packet). Please note that the last page addresses what can and cannot be recycled. The information can be accessed directly via casella.com/RecycleBetter. This page has been totally refreshed! Those residents with questions regarding trash collections or recycling that are not answered by reviewing the full document should call **CASELLA** – 603-623-7933 during normal business hours. DPW offices are open Monday-Thursday 6:00am – 4:00pm - 2 Constitution Drive, Hudson. The option of dropping off cut up cardboard, metal and/or yard waste on any Saturday will resume in April. The next two dates the Transfer Station will be fully open are February 22 & March 29 - 8:00am-12:00pm.

9. 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 in the bin within the vestibule at the Hudson Police Department. Syringes (in a hard-shell container) can be dropped off at local hospitals SNHMC and St. Joe's Hospital. The new CASELLA 2025 Solid Waste Brochure includes more information.

10. Holiday Lights Recycling Program – presented by C. Putnam – A total of 512lbs (98lbs at senior center, 150lbs at library, 174lbs at town hall) was dropped off in the collection boxes around town. Troop 20 also contributed to the total during their Christmas Tree pick up service.

11. Hudson Community Power – C. Putnam updated the committee on news related to Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire. Now 8720 customers accts, community participation rate 70%, 3.9% opt in, 4.3% opt out, Granite Basic 99.6% accounts. Customer savings total is \$365K so far.

It is recommended that discussion on Freedom Energy Logistics Group Net Metering be held off for now since CPCNH is going to offer a similar program.

C. Putnam, as a director on the board of directors of CPCNH, explained that the hedging transactions (contracts for electric supply) that were made by the CEO of CPCNH that were made outside the CPCNH policies have resulted in losses in the joint reserve fund between \$8.6M and \$12.3M. CPCNH is currently investigating the origin of the hedges and the process of restoring the fund and setting up prevention guardrails for the future. As part of the recovery effort, it may be necessary to restore the 8.9cents/kWh rate. B. Guessferd suggested C. Putnam present at the Feb 11th BOS meeting.

12. Community Roadside Cleanup (CRC) –Upon review of the School System's schedule and the timing of Earth Day it came to light that April 19th will be the optimal day to host a Roadside Cleanup. The CRC committee will take the lead on communicating with the DPW, HPD and, if appropriate, the HFD on which road they recommend and can support the cleanup.

Motion to have cleanup on **April 19th** by C. Thatcher, K. Huber seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Details to follow at a future meeting.

13. The Future: The Sustainability Committee membership slots are all full for the first time in many years. 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. Chair Putnam requested that B. Guessferd request the DPW Director attend one of the next meetings.

Examples are the report on the Walpole Recycling and Trash center as created by K. Messner and the publicly available Trash and Recycling contract between Casella and the Town of Hudson.

As we move forward, elections will be held in February, at least for a Vice Chair. The current Chair will be unable to attend the regular fourth Monday of the month meetings in April, June and August.

14. The next meeting – February 24, 2025 at 7pm.

15. Committee Member & Selectman Liaison Comments: K. Messner requested that we do a PSA for the public on recyclables. B. Larson inquired about the whether a listing of town facilities and schools use for energy and costs associated. He suggested that is would be a good benchmark for tracking.

16. Motion for Adjournment by E. Thompson, seconded by B. Larson. Motion passed unanimously.

Edward Thompson

Hudson Sustainability Committee, Secretary

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