Town of Swanzey, NH
Swanzey Energy Commission
Meeting Minutes for April 21, 2025

Note: Draft minutes are subject to review, correction and approval by the Committee. Review and approval of minutes generally takes place at the next regularly scheduled committee meeting.

Call to Order—The meeting of the Swanzey Energy Commission was called to order at 1 pm by Chair Audette. Present: Bob Audette, Barbara Skuly, Cheri Domina, Steve Russell

Minutes

Skuly made a motion to approve the March 10 minutes. Russell seconded. All in favor. Approved.

Business

Energy Audits—Discussed Stratton Library—library trustees are interested in mini-splits and already implementing the recommendations in their audit. Russell cautioned about the problems Mt. Caesar library had after installation of heat pumps, because of a bad transformer. We will get the other audit reports in May. Skuly said the next step is to contact Jesse Dutton at Eversource about funds available, rebates and credits. Is there no Whitcomb Hall Committee any longer? Who will follow up on the hall's recommendations, or the Carpenter Home? We'll need to advocate, and talk to the new Administrator, Selectmen and DPW director.

CENH—discussed the fact that they are lobbying for us in NH legislature; various bills coming up. We should be talking to Sly Karasinski.

SolSmart—no word from Mehu. Skuly suggested Russell attend the SolSmart meetings. He will send the doc they provided and follow up with Mehu about our ordinance.

Community Power Contract—Audette reported that the interim Town Administrator received an email today from Patrick Roche at Good Energy re: updating our contract. Emily Manns had told us we'd see the contract in May. Should Good Energy attend a Selectboard meeting, or our next meeting? Audette will call Roche to discuss.

Discussed the fact that Keene now has 50% renewables as their default. Are we ready for that? We don't have the mandate they do. Can we do a non-binding resolution to support green energy in Swanzey next year? Would Selectmen be supportive?

Swanzey Uncovered—Audette will draft something to run by the committee. Deadline is May 2.

Granite State Clean Fleets grant is due May 23. Who maintains Swanzey's fleet? Can we talk to police about their cars? Russell discussed types of e-cars police use. He and Skuly are willing to talk to the police chief.

Russell recommends charging stations at the new fire station, but state funding is on hold for that, he said. He's on the Drive Electric NH Committee.

DRAFT

Next meeting: May 12, 1 pm Agenda: Community power plan, audits, Granite State Clean Fleets, SolSmart.

Adjournment: Domina moved, Audette seconded, all in favor, adjourned 2:03 pm.

DRAFT