Town of Swanzey, NH
Swanzey Energy Commission
Meeting Minutes for July 13, 2026

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 1:15 pm by Chair Audette. Present: Robert Audette (on Zoom), Barbara Skuly, Stephen Russell, Cheri Domina, Alan Gross (Selectboard rep.), Asst. Town Planner Stephon Mehu

Minutes

Correction to June 8 minutes: Priority Power recommended the municipality drop Constellation and go to Eversource to get our RECS. Just say "it was recommended". **Skuly made a motion to approve the June 8, 2026 minutes as amended. Russell seconded. All in favor. Approved.**

Business

CPACER—Russell said it appears that this program is better suited for large businesses. We should learn around August if the legislature will approve having the Selectmen sign off on this (should they choose to). Russell said there is income eligibility for residential use.

Community Power Update—Eversource is raising their rate to 14 cents plus. We are at 11 cents plus. Residents will be sent a postcard by Priority Power.

RECS—Skuly has been talking to Revision; there is no record of us selling our RECS for the wastewater treatment array. Revision made a list of what needs to be compiled to sell them. Standard Power is defunct—we are now using Priority Power. Revision can help us provide a packet to them. Skuly went to the Selectboard; Jimmy Tempesta wants Joe DiRusso to make the request for info from Revision, so it's official. Could the REC funds go into our Energy Com budget? Would be about $5,000/year, Skuly said. These RECS are attached to the water treatment plant. Once we get information, it's up to us to submit it to Priority Power.

How do the RECS affect our contract with Keene to use power from their airport solar array? Which of our municipal accounts will be assigned to Keene? Wastewater treatment plant will be kept out, as will the DPW building and fire station if we want to do projects there.

Skuly and Mehu will check with town staff in Keene to see where things are at with the airport array.

Municipal Buildings Weatherization—Skuly said Jimmy Tempesta signed for the Eversource grant.

> ***Carpenter Home***—what do we have for matching funds? Mehu said the Selectmen opted to use the Northern Borders fund for another town project. We need to coordinate with Joe DiRusso on other work getting done at the building. Job may have to go to bid. We need to meet with DiRusso and Mehu about what needs to get done, and include Honeybee Hollow's priorities. Skuly asked Mehu for a list of priorities by next month's meeting. Mehu said he'd take Gross on a tour of the building. George Whitcomb fund has $41,000 that Selectmen would need to approve using. Our estimate for weatherization was $55,000, and Eversource will provide 40-

50%. Audette also suggested using the 1772 Foundation (NH Preservation Alliance). May also be able to get Congressionally directed funds in fall.

Whitcomb Hall—George Whitcomb fund is $7,000; Domina will ask the Trustees of Trust Funds what else might be available to use.

What happens if we go to bid? Northeast Sealing was recommended to us, but may not get the job. Audette suggested we get on the Selectboard's agenda, and get clarification on funds. We need to request funds and seek bids if necessary.

Solar Ordinance—Audette and Domina went to the Planning Board with the Solar Ordinance June 25. Audette gave them the version we approved, plus some other AI versions and additional information. Audette will follow up.

Solar Survey—Audette gave it to Katie at the Town Office awhile ago, but Swanzey Uncovered still hasn't come out.

Wastewater Treatment Plant/Solar Array open house, June 20—Skuly said 12 people attended. She wants to figure out our final cost for the array—the numbers we were given don't add up.

Other business—Russell said he went to the energy roundtable at Stonewall Farm last month.

Next meeting—August 10.

Adjournment: Audette moved, Russell seconded, all in favor, adjourned 1:55 pm.

DRAFT