

Rye Energy Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 7, 2023

3:00 PM

Rye Public Library

1. Attendance – Howard Kalet, Tom Pfau, Silas Proft, Rob Spork
2. Community Power Update and Roll Out Plans

Howard explained the changes to CPCNH legal documents due to Eversource non-compliance with providing data to CPCNH contractor Calpine. A work around was used to send data to CPCNH that will then forward it to Calpine. There is also an issue with net metering customers that will prevent CPCNH from servicing them until Eversource complies with the data requirements. Ascend Analytics will go out to bid for power procurement this week and then will meet with the CPCNH Risk Committee on Friday to decide whether to accept or reject the bids. The Board will then meet to set the rates for the launch. It looking like the default rate may be 10-20% below the Eversource rate. CPCNH will mail a CP launch notification to all Eversource supply customers except those who use net metering. We will hold an RCP public meeting on March 13 at 5:15 at Town Hall. Since CPCNH mail notification will go out sometime after that, we need to hold a second public meeting within 15 days of the mailing. This meeting should be held at the Junior High School to accommodate a larger number of attendees.

Tom reported that the March 13 meeting is mentioned in the March Town newsletter as well as in the March edition of Stroll magazine. The meeting will be available via Zoom which is encouraged because of limited seating at Town Hall. We have permission to place a sandwich board advertising the meeting in front of the Annex and to hand out literature at the Transfer Station on Saturdays during March. Silas offered to loan us his 6 ft folding table which we'll use to display the CPCNH banner. We also have permission to have a table in the hallway at the Elementary School on election day.

3. Breakfast Hill solar project update

Clarke Fenner of Senergy called Tom to report there are two parties interested in working on the BF Hill solar project. One of them wants to own it for 6 years to take advantage of the tax credits and the other is willing to develop and sell it to the Town. He asked which we would prefer and I told him we need to evaluate which proposal is best for the Town. He thought he might have proposals for us to look at in the next couple weeks. I told him we can't think about them until after CP launches which he said is fine. When he has proposals we should plan to have him to a meeting to discuss them. Clarke has also spoken with Craig Musselman about the risk of building on the landfill given the recent concern about PFAS. Craig told him the BF Hill landfill is not the concern, the Grove Road landfill is.

4. Public Safety Building lighting

A neighbor of the PSB has complained about one of the newly installed LED outdoor lights shining in their windows. Police Chief Walsh has been turning the light off manually so it doesn't shine into the neighbor's house. The company that installed the lights has agreed to replace them with ones with night sky shields.

5. Water treatment plant solar

The Rye Water Department has plans to build a water treatment plant if voters decide it is warranted. If they do build one, we should meet with them about the possibility of installing solar panels either on the roof or ground-mounted adjacent to the building.

6. Adjourn – meeting was adjourned and next meeting is April 11.