FRANCONIA ENERGY COMMISSION
MINUTES
September 16, 2025, 4:30 PM

In attendance: Bob, Eric, Chris

Minutes from July Energy Commission meeting approved.

Franconia Town Hall Solar Energy System

- Pole removal in front of the Welcome Center, including burying the lines, is being managed by electrician Justin Poulton. Justin approached Needham Electrical about purchasing the PVC pipe to fund the remaining work, but Needham made an untenable offer, so Justin will purchase the surplus PVC. The goal is to complete the pole removal work by fall.
- Municipal solar expansion
    - IRA program ends Dec 31, 2026
    - Franconia expansion at Town Garage/Transfer Station (combined?) and Dow Pavilion

Button Up NH (a NHSaves program)

- The Plymouth Area Renewable Energy Initiative has announced that they will be presenting the informative NHSaves Button Up workshops for 2024. Bob will head this up for Franconia, with a workshop at the Town Hall in November.

- Button Ups are a one-to-one-and-a-half-hour presentation about improving the energy efficiency of your home. It covers energy saving tips and the NHSaves utility partners' energy efficiency programs. Participants will learn about saving electricity, insulation and air sealing, energy audits and weatherization, rebates on electric and gas appliances, the Home Energy Performance program and other utility and government energy efficiency incentives. New Hampshire residents that want to use energy wisely and save money will find the information very useful. These workshops are sponsored by the NHSaves utility partners and are non-cost. They may be in-person or virtual via Zoom.

Replacement of town buildings' fossil fuel heating with heat pumps

- Restart energy audits, as part of reviewing town energy usage municipal electricity.
- Include water system, as this is the single, largest consumer of municipal electricity

Energy use by town buildings

- We will use Google Sheets, with access by the group, to kick off this activity for the 2025 report. Template creation is in progress.

Ongoing Town Business

- Broadband ribbon cutting ceremony September 17 at the Dow Pavilion.
- Library ADA bathroom ribbon cutting ceremony September 22.

Next meeting: November 19, 2024 @ 4:30 at the Town Hall.

Meeting Adjourned 5:40 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Dubé