



## ENERGY & CLIMATE COMMITTEE

### AGENDA

Wednesday, June 1, 2022, 8:00 AM

City Hall, Second Floor Council Chambers

#### **Members:**

Peter Hansel, Chair  
Zach Luse, Vice Chair  
Diana Duffy  
Jake Pipp  
Councilor Raleigh Ormerod  
Jude Nuru  
Paul Roth  
Linsey Edmunds

Councilor Bryan Lake  
Beth Campbell  
Clair Oursler, Alternate

#### **Staff:**

Mari Brunner, Senior Planner  
Chris Cusack, Contract Planner

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes – May 4, 2022
3. Energy Plan Work Group Report-outs
  - a. Weatherization
  - i. Window Dressers Program
  - b. Electric Vehicles
  - c. Community Solar
  - d. Renewable Energy Loans
  - e. Outreach and Education
4. NHSaves Home Energy Workshop De-brief
5. Community Power Update
  - a. Roundtable – June 7, 5:00 pm, Heberton Hall (Keene Public Library)
6. Legislative Updates
7. New Business
8. Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 6, 2022 – 8:00 am
9. Adjourn

Link to ECC Google Drive Folder:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1O1WIR0fADTNijRt13v3DU7k2FwxXDcGs?usp=sharing>

1 City of Keene  
2 New Hampshire

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5 ENERGY AND CLIMATE COMMITTEE  
6 MEETING MINUTES  
7

Wednesday, May 4, 2022

8:00 AM

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Training Room,  
City Hall

Members Present:

Peter Hansel, Chair  
Zach Luse, Vice Chair  
Councilor Bryan Lake  
Jake Pipp  
Paul Roth  
Diana Duffy  
Beth Campbell  
Clair Oursler, Alternate

Staff Present:

Mari Brunner, Senior Planner

Members Not Present:

Councilor Raleigh Ormerod  
Jude Nuru  
Linsey Edmunds

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9  
10 **1) Call to Order and Roll Call**

11  
12 Chair Hansel called the meeting to order at 8:10 AM.

13  
14 **2) Approval of Minutes – April 6, 2022**

15  
16 Ms. Duffy made a motion to approve the minutes of April 6, 2022 as presented. Mr. Luse  
17 seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

18  
19 **3) Energy Plan Work Group Report-Outs**  
20

21 **A) Weatherization**

22 **i) Window Dressers Program** – Mr. Pipp reported that he and Mr. Luse met  
23 with staff members from Southwestern Community Services at the beginning of  
24 April. They are interested in the program and happy to help spread the word to  
25 folks on the fuel subsidies list and weatherization waiting list. Additionally, they  
26 will put interested contacts within the City of Keene area in touch with the group,

27 and will keep a list of those interested but outside the City area, for potential  
28 future expansion of geographical reach.

29  
30 Mr. Pipp mentioned that Nancy Gillard and Carolyn Jones from the Clean Energy  
31 Team had a table at the KSC work day event and also at the Monadnock Earth  
32 Day festival. Their table included information on the Window Dressers program  
33 and a sample window insert. Ms. Jones is working with Monadnock Habitat for  
34 Humanity and hoping to get volunteers for the community build. Mr. Pipp also  
35 mentioned tabling at the upcoming NH Saves Button Up Workshop on May 25<sup>th</sup>.  
36 He went on to state that Mr. Luse has been working on a website that provides  
37 information on the program and allows people to sign up for the program, as well  
38 as volunteers to sign up. Their email is [keenewindowinserts@gmail.com](mailto:keenewindowinserts@gmail.com). Mr.  
39 Pipp stated Councilor Lake has joined their group and noted his appreciation. He  
40 mentioned that another member of the public is joining the group as well.

41  
42 Mr. Luse reported that thus far they have received 5 requests, making a total of  
43 80-90 inserts.

44  
45 Ms. Campbell asked how much capacity they have to go beyond their goal. Mr.  
46 Luse stated they are capped at 200 units per the Window Dressers program. He  
47 added that if they created a waiting list they could potentially do another build  
48 shortly after.

49  
50 Chair Hansel asked if this process is something they could take over themselves.  
51 Mr. Pipp stated, the first time around, it's good to see how it's done and not try to  
52 figure it all out from scratch. He noted he feels that they'll be able to tweak the  
53 process and maximize it and then either continue working with Window Dressers  
54 or go off on their own.

55  
56 Councilor Lake asked if they had locked down a location for the community  
57 build. Ms. Brunner replied that the Blastos room was recommended and she is  
58 looking into that. She reminded everyone that they will need the room for 6-7  
59 days to accommodate a day for clean-up, a day for take-down, and around 4 days  
60 to build the inserts with volunteers. Mr. Roth said Cheshire Medical's facility  
61 located on Maple Avenue could be another potential location.

62  
63 Ms. Duffy asked how they arrived at the relationship with Window Dressers.  
64 Chair Hansel stated they brought the idea before the committee two meetings ago  
65 after the work group did research, weighed options, and met with Window  
66 Dressers. They came to the conclusion that they would need to work with  
67 Window Dressers for at least the first year to learn the process, before potentially  
68 doing it alone.

69

70 Ms. Jones asked for clarification on the percent of low income people that will  
71 receive inserts. Mr. Pipp stated 50% will go to the low-income population. Chair  
72 Hansel asked how they verify that information. Mr. Luse added that there is no  
73 income verification but more of an honor system with Window Dressers.

74  
75 Ms. Gillard stated the Clean Energy team wanted to ask the ECC to partner with  
76 them for the Button Up Workshop. Chair Hansel stated they have that on the  
77 agenda to discuss later on in the meeting.

78  
79 **B) Electric Vehicles** – Councilor Lake reported that Mr. Norland gave them some  
80 good updates regarding what’s happening in the EV world, such as Tesla factories  
81 reopening and developments in the EV battery world. He stated they discussed the  
82 Volkswagen (VW) Settlement funds and he ran the group through guidelines such as  
83 what the college presented to them, code requirements he presented last fall, and the  
84 general recommendations for commercial and residential properties. Councilor Lake  
85 stated the guidelines are not quite what they are looking for so Ms. Duffy is going to help  
86 bring all the documents together into something cohesive and more focused towards City  
87 guidelines for EV infrastructure. He added that it will take some time to go through that  
88 process but it is their main focus right now.

89  
90 Ms. Shedd from the Monadnock Sustainability Hub stated there’s a mini drive electric  
91 expo in Peterborough on May 6<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-8:00pm. She explained that it will primarily  
92 be a celebration of the installation of some level 2 charges on the municipal parking lot in  
93 Peterborough. She also updated the group on the progress of the Co-op having level 2  
94 chargers in its parking lot. She reported that the VW proposal was submitted in early  
95 February, so they are hoping to hear any time now and it would include two fast chargers  
96 and one station with 2 plugs for level 2 charging. She added that there will still need to be  
97 some additional fundraising for match dollars.

98  
99 Mr. Roth referred to the paper the KSC student produced and suggested they could  
100 format that to be an educational resource on the website for the public. He felt that would  
101 accentuate a lot of the work they have done thus far and bring awareness to the public.

102  
103 Chair Hansel stated he is attending a task force on micro-transit and there was mention of  
104 alternatives to EV such as hydrogen. He encouraged the committee to be open to other  
105 forms of renewable energy besides electric.

106  
107 **C) Community Solar** – Ms. Brunner reported that Mr. Nuru is on a work trip so he  
108 could not be present; however, they can get an update from the group at the next meeting.  
109 Mr. Norland stated they took a look at a potential location for solar panels and it looks  
110 good as an option. Chair Hansel reminded everyone that it is the land down Route 12 on  
111 Lower Main Street that is a City owned lot and used to be a wastewater facility.

112

113 Ms. Shedd asked if they would have a public celebration for the solar installation at the  
114 waste water treatment plant being completed. Chair Hansel stated they will do a ribbon  
115 cutting.  
116

117 **D) Renewable Energy Loans** – Ms. Campbell reported that they had a guest speaker,  
118 Scott Maslansky from the NH Community Development Finance Authority, who gave  
119 information on how they run their operation. The group decided they need to further  
120 educate themselves on what opportunities exist with nonprofit organizations and how to  
121 pair themselves with for profit organizations. She stated Chair Hansel met with a number  
122 of interested groups including the Monadnock Economic Development Corporation, who  
123 is not ready now but may have funds available in the future, the Keene Downtown  
124 Housing Corporation, Mascoma Savings Bank, and the Regional Economic Development  
125 Corporation. Ms. Campbell stated there are opportunities out there they just need to  
126 explore which will be the best fit.  
127

128 Chair Hansel agreed, stating all the groups have some interest; however, they have  
129 different missions for use of their funds. He explained some of these differences and  
130 stated it will take some time to research. He noted that how ECC and the City fit into this  
131 picture is still unknown, but they are at least starting the discussion for potential  
132 collaborations and getting money for their mission to go towards energy efficiency and  
133 renewable energy.  
134

135 Ms. Campbell added there are a number of communities around the country who have  
136 already instituted programs like this and they will be researching those as well, so as to  
137 not reinvent the wheel. She stated they also have a list of programs administered by  
138 utilities or banking institutions. There was mention of the Milwaukee Shines Solar  
139 Program and Ms. Brunner stated she reached out to them to set up a meeting and will  
140 report back on that once it occurs.  
141

142 Mr. Norland asked about EV chargers at apartment buildings and Chair Hansel stated  
143 that's a good point. Ms. Brunner stated the EV Ready Guidelines were meant to be a  
144 resource for when people are doing reconstruction or developments and how to make a  
145 property EV ready. She added that they are trying to re-work the document so it can be  
146 put on their website as a resource.  
147

148 **E) Outreach and Education** – Mr. Luse reported that they have not had a meeting yet  
149 but he will be working with Ms. Duffy this week.  
150

151 **4) Requests for Event Sponsorship**

152 **A) NHSaves Button Up Workshop, May 25, 6:00pm, Keene Parks and**  
153 **Recreation Center (Clean Energy Keene)** – Chair Hansel stated there has been a  
154 request for event sponsorship for the NH Saves Button Up Workshop. He reminded the  
155 committee that they have done this as a committee in the past and feels it is a good thing

156 to continue doing. Mr. Luse made a motion to approve the sponsorship. The motion was  
157 seconded by Mr. Roth. Councilor Lake asked if the main purpose of sponsorship was to  
158 have their name as a sponsor and for the Clean Energy Group to be able to use the  
159 location free of charge. Chair Hansel stated that is correct. The motion passed  
160 unanimously. Councilor Lake asked if there was a requirement that anyone from the  
161 committee be at the event. Ms. Jones and Ms. Gillard stated it is always nice to have  
162 representation from the committee.

163  
164 **B) Community Power Roundtable, June 7, 5:00pm, Keene Public**  
165 **Library/Heberton Hall (Monadnock Sustainability Hub)** – Chair Hansel stated there  
166 is a request to sponsor the Community Power Roundtable. Ms. Shedd stated Southwest  
167 Region Planning Commission is involved with the roundtable as well and explained a bit  
168 about the event and read a statement surrounding Keene’s Community Power Plan goals,  
169 noting that it makes sense for the City of Keene to be present.

170  
171 Mr. Roth made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Pipp seconded the motion, which  
172 passed unanimously.

173  
174 Chair Hansel added that, with regards to outreach and education, they’ve been meeting  
175 with a representative from Southwest Region Planning Commission and the Greater  
176 Keene and Peterborough Chamber of Commerce to organize a regional series in the fall.  
177 They are in the process of planning and are hoping for an October date. The goal is to get  
178 the word out to a different audience than normal.

179  
180 **5) Community Power Update**  
181  
182 Ms. Brunner stated their plan was officially submitted with a more robust data security plan and  
183 they are waiting to hear back.

184  
185 **6) Legislative Updates**  
186  
187 Chair Hansel stated he did some research and most of it was about crossover amongst  
188 legislative branches that needs to be worked out. Ms. Brunner added that the House is in  
189 session to go under a consent calendar. She explained that anything that both the Senate and the  
190 House agree to will be voted on and the following day they will vote on the regular calendar.  
191 She added that Clean Energy NH has been doing a great job of tracking everything and the City  
192 of Keene is a member, so you can sign up for their policy updates and weekly calls.

193  
194 **7) New Business**

195  
196 **8) Next Meeting: Wednesday June 1, 2022 – 8:00am**

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199     **9) Adjournment**

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201     There being no further business, Chair Hansel adjourned the meeting at 8:53 AM.

202

203     Respectfully submitted by,

204     Nicole Cullinane, Minute Taker

205

206     Reviewed and edited by,

207     Mari Brunner, Senior Planner