

Town of Cape Elizabeth – Energy Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: July 10, 2025

Time: 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Location: Town Hall Chamber

Attendance

Present: Sam Milton, Richard Parker, Vince Flaherty, Ian Sample, David Bagdasarian, David Kane, Rosalie Blenkhorn

Absent: Niko Dietsch

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Acting Chair **Sam Milton**.

2. Determination of Chair for the Meeting

- A discussion was held regarding chair responsibilities.
 - **Motion:** *To appoint Sam Milton as Acting Chair for the present meeting.*
 - **Action:** Motion carried by unanimous consent.
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3. Approval of Minutes

- The recorder reported that prior meeting minutes are still in preparation and will be presented at the next meeting for approval.
 - **Action:** Approval of prior minutes deferred.
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4. Solar Project (Encore Energy Land Lease)

Report & Discussion

- Dave Bagdasarian provided an update noting significant changes to the proposed solar project:
 - Transition from the originally anticipated tariff-based ownership model to a 25-year land lease at \$50,000/year.
 - Modifications to contract language from the prior version.
- Committee members expressed concerns regarding:
 - Lack of legal review visible to the committee.
 - Missed opportunities for workshop discussions with Town Council and legal counsel.
 - Risks associated with executing contracts without committee input, given prior findings of critical errors.

Motion

- **Motion:** *That the Energy Committee draft and submit a memo to the Town Manager and Town Council requesting: (1) a copy of the proposed contract, (2) committee participation in any executive session or workshop on the matter, and (3) confirmation of attorney review prior to any final vote.*
 - **Action:** Motion carried unanimously.
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5. Climate Action Plan

Report & Discussion

- The Climate Action Plan is scheduled for presentation to the Town Council on **September 9** for approval.
- Members discussed:
 - Dedicating the next committee meeting exclusively to Climate Action Plan review.
 - Potential rebranding of the committee to emphasize climate implementation and sustainability.

6. Community Fuel Program Concept

Report & Discussion

- The committee discussed a proposed **community fuel program** to pool residential fuel (propane/oil) demand for discounted rates.
- Discussion included:
 - Data collection requirements.
 - Vendor bidding processes.

- Requesting Town Council authorization to use municipal communication channels.
 - Long-term potential includes expanding to school district fuel needs and electricity aggregation.
 - Consensus was reached to continue exploring the concept and prepare informational language for potential Town Council review.
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7. Other Business

No additional motions or new business were brought forward.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at **8:00 PM**.

Next Meeting: August (Date TBD) – dedicated to Climate Action Plan review with GP COG.