

Merrimack Community Choice Aggregation Committee (CCAC)
Minutes
Thursday, January 4, 2024

Present: Tom Koenig, Andy Hunter, Wendy Thomas, Jeanine Notter and Paul Micali.
Also in attendance were Bart Fromuth and Stuart Ormsbee

Tom Koenig called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

Motion by Andy Hunter to nominated Tom Koenig as Chairman
Motion passed 4-0-1 with Tom Koenig abstaining

Motion by Andy Hunter to nominated Paul Micali as Secretary
Motion passed 4-0-1 with Paul Micali abstaining

Introduction of what a Community Choice Aggregation Program is:

Tom Koenig introduced what the Community Choice Aggregation Committee (CCAC) is and explained it's a group to put together a program to purchase energy for the entire Town who is on Eversource. This plan has to be approved by the PUC and the residents of the Town. If approved, everyone receiving electricity from Eversource would have 30 days to opt-out and stay with Eversource.

If residents have solar and net meter (exporting) they would have to stay with Eversource because the aggregation will not be buying back additional solar. These residents would have to opt-in to the program.

Bart Fromuth discussed the connection between and Freedom Energy and Colonial Power. With HB 286 there is a need to bring in a company who has experience with CCAC. Colonial has a large group in Massachusetts with over 10 year of experience.

Town Timeline and Important dates:

Paul Micali discussed the timeline and the goal the Town Council set to have it on the April 2024 Town Warrant. Backing out the two public hearings required by RSA and the posting requirements for the public hearings the Committee would have to have finalized a plan by January 31st at the latest.

Plan Review:

The Consultant would be providing the following services for a fee of .001 per kilowatt to the Town:

- Helping with the plan documents
- Two Public Hearings
- Information Meetings
- Filing with the PUC
- Issuing RFP's
- Answering questions
- Market Monitoring
- Dealing with all the opt-out mailings

- Answer questions about the program
- Maintaining the Website
- All Customer Service associated with the program
- Maintaining the program
- Reliability

What does the term Reliability mean: As part of the RSA it means how is the program working to have continuous contracts throughout the plan and not jumping back and forth between a 3rd party provider and Eversource.

The Plan, once approved by the residents in April, would then have to be approved by the PUC. Once approved by the PUC, the Town with its consultants, would then be able to go out for RFP to providers of electricity. The RFPs and the winning bidder would then have to be approved by the Town Council before any opt-out letters are sent out.

Freedom has provided a template plan given to the committee that has been approved already by the PUC. It takes about 60 days for the PUC either approve or reject the plan.

The plan is meant to be a regulatory document not so specific that there is no flexibility to make changes without going to the PUC.

Next meeting dates Tuesday, January 9, 2024
Friday, January 19, 2024
Tuesday, January 23, 2024 (if needed)

Adjourn:

Motion by Andy Hunter, seconded by Wendy Thomas at 8:12pm

Motion passed 5-0-0

Respectfully submitted by Paul T. Micali