

Tamworth Energy Committee Meeting

Minutes

July 21, 2026

Present: Gabrielle Watson, Chair, T.J. McAndrew, Ted Morgan

The meeting came to order at 4:06 p.m. The Minutes from the June 16 meeting were approved with two minor edits.

Button-Up Workshops:

Gabrielle announced that the Makers' Mill will be holding a Button-Up workshop on September 30th. The Energy Committee will co-sponsor it and distribute posters, when available.

The Meeting decided to offer a second Button-Up workshop in late October-early November. Ted will contact Robbin Adams at the Plymouth Area Renewable Energy group to check on available dates in October and November. We hope to focus on participants taking actions during the session to assess their home's energy efficiency and sign up for NH Saves incentives, if eligible.

EV Charger Updates:

Gabrielle reported on the "excellent progress" we have made in fund-raising for the EV chargers. The town has received donations totally \$21,751, along with an additional \$1,200 in pledges, bringing the total to \$22,951, if all pledged funds are received.

Findings from T.J.'s Research into Charging Equipment and Labor/Installation options:

T.J. reviewed options offered by different companies according to the Energy Committee's criteria—two chargers, efficient user payment options—and taking into account the load capacity of the Town Office building's 200-amp electrical service. Assuming the building was drawing approximately 100 amps, about 60 amps of capacity would remain available for EV charging. This left two practical options: install lower-powered chargers or utilize chargers with Dynamic Load Management (DLM), which automatically adjusts charging output based on the building's electrical demand. Under periods of high building usage, charger users would continue to receive the maximum charging power available within the building's remaining electrical capacity.

T.J. examined options with two well-established national companies, Wall Box and Blink. Wall Box has Dynamic Load Management, but does not have an integrated payment system (e.g., no charge card use). Blink has good DLM and an integrated payment system, and allows load balancing between the two chargers if both are on the same 80 amp circuit (which is less expensive than EVSE's two circuit system). Both companies provide cloud-based management software and support Open Charge Point Protocol (OCPP) and an annual network management fee of approximately \$500–600/year, which would be self-funded via the charge rate.

Guardian, the more expensive company we initially engaged with has promised to send us a lower-priced proposal in the next few days.

Gabrielle suggested that we have three options for installing the equipment:

- A. Turn-key: Guardian, which provides equipment, installation and labor, with a new price.

- B. Cobalt-managed: We purchase charging equipment directly and work with Cobalt who would manage the installation and local contractors.
- C. TEC-managed: Led by TEC purchasing charging equipment and using volunteer excavation labor from Russ Lanoie, pre-cast concrete tube from Coleman's, and a contracted licensed electrician for the installation.

The committee voted to delegate authority to Gabrielle and T.J. to develop and present a final proposal at the next Select Board meeting on July 28. T.J. will present our proposal at that meeting, since Gabrielle will be away. The Blink proposal would cost an estimated \$14,000, including site preparation, electrician labor & supplies, and equipment, plus the self-funding \$500-600 OCCP annual cost. Pending the new Guardian proposal, we will likely propose we proceed with the TEC-managed option, at an estimated cost of \$15,000, which is well under the funds raised.

Signage:

Gabrielle reported that Peg has reached a company about signage for the charger site, but has not heard back yet. Peg will reach out to them again. Green Wave EVs has offered the skills of their designer to help finalize the sign design.

Reception for Donors and Supporters:

Plans for a reception of donors and supporters was discussed for a Thursday c. 4:00 p.m., possibly September 3. T.J offered his home as a possible site for the reception.

Once the chargers are completed, a ribbon-cutting ceremony with 'speechifying' will be scheduled at the site.

The next Energy Committee meeting is scheduled for August 25.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40