

TOWN OF HYDE PARK ENERGY COMMITTEE RULES OF PROCEDURE

A. PURPOSE: The Energy Committee of the Town of Hyde Park is required by law to conduct its meetings in accordance with the Vermont Open Meeting Law; See 1 V.S.A. § 310-314. Meetings of the Energy Committee of the Town of Hyde Park must be open to the public at all times, except as provided in 1 V.S.A. § 313. At such meetings, the public must be afforded reasonable opportunity to give its opinion on matters considered by the Energy Committee so long as order is maintained. Such public comment is subject to the reasonable rules established by the chair of the Energy Committee; See 1 V.S.A. § 312(h).

B. APPLICATION: This policy setting forth rules of procedure for Energy Committee meetings shall apply to all regular, special, and emergency meetings of the Town of Hyde Park Energy Committee.

C. PROCEDURES:

1. The chair of the Energy Committee, or in the chair's absence, the vice-chair, shall chair all Energy Committee meetings. If both the chair and the vice-chair are absent, a member selected by the committee shall chair the meeting. The Chair or any three members of the Energy Committee may call a special or emergency meeting.
2. The chair shall rule on all questions of order or procedure and shall enforce these rules as required by 1 V.S.A. § 312(h).
3. A majority of the members of the Energy Committee shall constitute a quorum. If a quorum of the members of the Energy Committee is not present at a meeting, the only action that may be considered by the Energy Committee is a motion to recess or adjourn the meeting.
4. At the beginning of each Energy Committee meeting, there shall be 5 minutes afforded for open public comment. By majority vote, the Energy Committee may increase the time for open public comment and may adjust the agenda items and times accordingly.
5. Each Energy Committee meeting shall have an agenda; specific time may be allotted for each item of business to be considered by the Energy Committee. Those who wish to be added to the meeting agenda shall contact the Town Administrator or Energy Committee chair to request inclusion on the agenda. The Energy Committee chair shall determine the final content of the agenda.
6. All business shall be conducted in the same order as it appears on the agenda, except that by majority vote of the Energy Committee, the order of items to be considered and/or the time allotted may be modified.
7. Public comment on issues discussed by the Energy Committee, if not offered during the open public comment period, may be offered during the meeting with the permission of the chair. Such comment, if permitted, shall be limited to 5 minutes, unless by majority vote, the Energy Committee increases the time for public comment.
8. Meetings may be recessed to a time and place certain.

9. These rules shall be made available at all meetings, and procedures for public comment shall be reviewed at the beginning of all meetings. The Chair, or a majority of the board, may order that public comment cease at any time deemed necessary or appropriate to allow the board to close a meeting, begin deliberations or to move on to other items.

10. These rules may be amended by majority vote of the Energy Committee.

Hyde Park Energy Committee

Date Approved