

To the residents of the Town of Peterborough:

As I prepare to retire as Town Administrator, I am encouraged by the efforts of the Peterborough Energy Action team to transition all of Peterborough to renewable energy. It is a bold ambition that will require unprecedented citizen engagement to succeed. They will have my support.

I have always encouraged Peterborough to take the “long view” on how we source our energy supply. We need to be paying attention not only to clean energy, but also to diversity of supply.

Since 2007, Peterborough has been steadily shifting our municipal heating demand from fossil fuels to biomass sources. We cover much of our municipal electricity demand from the one-megawatt solar plant we installed in 2015, by a combination of directly powering the wastewater treatment facility and of selling excess power to Eversource. In addition, the Monadnock Buying Collaborative has helped Peterborough, the ConVal and Jaffrey Rindge School Districts, and several surrounding towns source their electricity from 50 to 100% renewable energy sources at very competitive prices for over ten years. Now it is time to extend the same opportunities to all of Peterborough’s residents, businesses and institutions.

Peterborough has been a statewide leader in clean energy for more than a decade. I credit our engaged and educated community as the “secret ingredient” that has made us successful when so many communities with good plans have been disappointed. Setting the goal of achieving 100% renewable-sourced energy use in Peterborough is just the first step. Planning, citizen dialogue and community engagement will be critically important to ensuring we achieve a just transition to clean, affordable energy for all. I know that Peterborough is equal to the task.

Sincerely,



Rodney Bartlett

Peterborough Town Administrator