

LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Council Chambers, City Hall

September 16, 2021

4:00 PM

FINAL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Clifton Below (Chair, Council Representative), Greg Ames (Vice-Chair), Jon Chaffee, Woody Rothe, Joan Monroe (Planning Board Representative), Gene Homicki (alternate, remote), Meghan Butts (remote), Devin Wilkie (Alternate Council Representative)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Everett Hammond, Jim Donison, Marc Morgan

GUESTS PRESENT: None

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Clifton Below at 4:08 PM. Clifton appointed Gene Homicki to serve in place of the Lebanon High School student.

ANEROBIC DIGESTER STUDY PRESENTATION: Mike Smith of Weston and Sampson Engineers presented the report on the anerobic digester. Siting study – landfill or WWTP? WWTP recommended, as the WWTP can use the power and heat produced and upgrading the grid connection at the landfill would be too expensive. Lebanon and Hartford sludge as sources. Hanover sludge is already digested and de-watered, so little to no energy value. Possible additional sources: local food waste from DHMC, Dartmouth. Most local microbreweries have arranged other disposal for spent grains. Used fry oil/grease is already sold for biodiesel production. Expected production of 613.2MWh/year, or 62% of WWTP power needs and 4566 MBTU/year or 81% of WWTP heating needs, along with a 2.7% reduction in annual landfill volume. However, the \$13M estimated cost would result in approximately 30% increase in sewer rates, making the project economically unfeasible. The City's wastewater volumes are approximately 1/4 of the volume necessary to make the process economically feasible.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: The following minutes were approved
Jon moved to accept the following minutes as a package, and Woody seconded:

- July 15, 2021, Public Hearing
- July 15, 2021, Regular LEAC Meeting
- August 18, 2021, Joint Public Hearing with City Council
- August 19, 2021, Regular LEAC Meeting
- July 9, 2021, Municipal Aggregation Subcommittee
- July 13, 2021, Municipal Aggregation Subcommittee

The motion was approved by roll call vote.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Municipal Aggregation Subcommittee: Clifton suggested that the Subcommittee could be dissolved since it has finished its work to develop Lebanon's Electric Aggregation Plan. Final meeting minutes were approved by LEAC in this meeting (see above).

OLD BUSINESS

Lebanon Community Power, Community Power Coalition of NH & Related Legislative and Regulatory updates: Last night the City Council approved the electric aggregation plan and appointed Clifton as the City's representative and Greg as the alternate. Currently 13 communities (12 towns and Cheshire County) have signed on to be founding members of CPCNH. HB315 was signed into law by the Governor and takes effect on Oct 25th. Expect to incorporate CPCNH on Friday, October 1, 2021, with a celebratory luncheon afterwards in Concord (LEAC members are invited).

Disbanding the Municipal Aggregation Subcommittee: Clifton suggested that the Municipal Aggregation Subcommittee has completed its initial charter and is no longer needed, and therefore could be disbanded. Greg moved that the Committee dissolve/disband the municipal Aggregation Subcommittee. Woody seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss development of a City Climate Action Plan: Jon suggested that LEAC take the lead on offering suggestions for a City-wide climate action plan. He also discussed the possible breadth of the plan, and how to involve other stakeholders in the discussion. Clifton discussed the requirement for public notice and formation of an official committee, as opposed to an informal advisory committee. Jon, Woody, and Meghan will participate in an informal advisory committee. There was discussion of updates to the City's Master Plan.

Local Energy Solutions Conference: Conference will be hybrid this year (virtual and in person). Date is Friday, October 8th.

Electric Street Sweeper Demo: NH DES will be demonstrating an electric street sweeper on Mon 9/27, 11am – 2pm. Jim mentioned that Lebanon has delayed its purchase of a new sweeper with the expectation that electric ones will be available by the time one is ultimately purchased.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: None.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: None.

NEXT MEETING:

Next LEAC meeting scheduled for Thursday, October 21st at 4pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Woody to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 PM. The motion was seconded by Jon. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Gregory Ames