

FINAL



LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Council Chambers, City Hall

July 21st, 2022

4:00 PM

-- FINAL --

MEMBERS PRESENT*: Greg Ames (Chair), Jon Chaffee (Vice-Chair), Clifton Below (Council Representative), Woody Rothe, Sherry Boschert (remote), Devin Wilkie (Council Alternate), Gene Homicki (alternate, remote)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Meghan Butts (alternate)

STAFF PRESENT: Tad Montgomery, Rebecca Owens – Planning Office (remote), Nik Coates – Deputy City Manager (remote), Everett Hammond – DPW Asst. Director (remote)

GUESTS PRESENT: Adams Carroll (Advanced Transit, remote)

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Greg Ames at 4:08 PM. Greg Ames appointed Gene Homicki to fill the seat of the Lebanon High School student.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Woody Rothe moved to accept the June 2022 minutes; Jon Chaffee seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously without change.

OLD BUSINESS:

MASTER PLAN – ENERGY CHAPTER

Woody Rothe led a discussion around incorporating equity into Ch. 13 of the Master Plan. Richard Burley's report/worksheet for the DEI Committee was discussed, as well as Mr. Rothe's list of specific suggestions re Ch. 13. The idea going forward is to create a new Ch. 13 Outcome 8 based on equity. Rebecca Owens and Woody Rothe said that they would work to draft this. LEAC members were encouraged to review Chapter 13, the equity documents in the July LEAC meeting agenda packet that Woody Rothe has researched and get their suggestions to him.

COMMUNITY POWER UPDATE

Asst. Mayor Below gave an update on the Community Power Coalition of NH (CPCNH). Peterborough has voted to join. The Board has been busy reviewing responses to the RFP. The NH PUC is meeting to adopt the final rules on 7/27/22.

* **QUORUM NOTE:** When LEAC has five members, three need to be physically present to create a quorum.

1 **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

2 No new news.

4 **LANDFILL GAS-TO-ENERGY PROJECT**

5 National Grid has said that they might require 15-18 months to review the application for
6 interconnection. Clifton Below and others are working to shorten that timeline.

8 **ELECTRIC VEHICLE SUBCOMMITTEE**

9 Sherry Boschert gave a review of the EV Subcommittee's work. Topics included electric school busses,
10 the Police Station EV project, her upcoming presentation to the Planning Board on July 27, a new
11 technology to affix Level 2 EV chargers on streetlight poles, General Motors' offer to give away 10 Level
12 2 chargers to communities around each GM dealer, and a new EV Subcommittee webpage:
13 <https://LebanonNH.gov/EV>. For more detail see the minutes to the July 14, 2022 LEAC EV
14 Subcommittee meeting, available [here](#) as soon as they have been approved. Sherry said that she will
15 be reaching out to Key Chevrolet in Hartford soon, and that her priority for placement of Level 2
16 chargers is multi-family housing and downtown Lebanon.

18 **RENTAL PROPERTY PILOT ENERGY RETROFIT**

19 Jon Chaffee mentioned that Liberty has funds available for rental upgrades, but there is a possible issue
20 with air source heat pumps. They have found a possible landlord and facility to upgrade through this
21 pilot. The next step is to complete resident income verification through the Tri-County CAP. Angela
22 Zhang of LISTEN told Jon that she might be able to assist the project.

24 **NEW BUSINESS & OTHER NEWS:**

26 **CITY STRATEGIC PLAN**

27 Tad Montgomery told LEAC members that the City Manager wants to meet with the committee to
28 discuss a new strategic planning process at its next meeting in August. The City Manager sent out a
29 memo to this effect that has a sample strategic plan from Fort Collins, CO. He also pointed LEAC
30 members to an '[Idea Board](#)' that has been set up on the city website where residents can make
31 suggestions regarding the strategic plan. Rebecca Owens said that this process is designed to replace
32 the annual Outcome and Work Plan process. She further said that suggestions around the City's
33 building codes and energy efficiency should be made in the strategic planning process.

35 **ELECTRIC BUSES AT ADVANCED TRANSIT**

36 Adams Carroll is the incoming director of Advanced Transit and told LEAC about their move towards
37 electric busses. He said that AT should take possession of the first two battery electric Gillig busses this
38 fall. Their next five vehicles have been ordered but will not be available for some time due to supply
39 chain constraints. They have issued an RFP for EV charger installation ([ABB Terra 54HV 50 kW](#) fast

1 chargers) and he said that they would be happy to work with LEAC to help make progress towards the
2 city's greenhouse gas reduction goals.

3 4 **MICRO-GRID**

5 Tad Montgomery, Clifton Below, Greg Ames and Everett Hammond met with Alex Tang of TRC, who
6 talked about their company's work developing micro-grids. He noted that both Eversource and Green
7 Mountain Power are actively developing micro-grids. He said that micro-grids can be set up relatively
8 easily and with low investments. A feasibility study would flesh out the issues and benefits of a
9 particular microgrid proposed project. (see the white paper from TRC that is attached to the end of
10 these minutes).

11 12 **NIK COATES INTRODUCTION**

13 Nik Coates, the new Deputy City Manager in charge of Public Works, joined the meeting and
14 introduced himself. LEAC members welcomed him.

15 16 **ENERGY & FACILITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

- 17 • An overview of businesses that were featured at the Clean Energy NH Energy Innovation
18 seminar on May 24th was presented.
- 19 • The EFM has been given the go-ahead to commence work on a Phase 3 solar project, and
20 shared a list of proposed sites that are under consideration. Clifton Below mentioned that one
21 of the candidates for the CPCNH contract might be able to help the City develop solar power for
22 sale through Lebanon Community Power.
- 23 • Hartford, Hanover, and Lebanon are moving ahead to develop an RFP for a regional EV charging
24 infrastructure development. The next meeting of the group is July 27th, 10 AM, and Sherry
25 Bouchard was invited to join it.
- 26 • The Energy Advocacy Council had their meeting earlier on July 21st and the EFM presented
27 some of the work of the group. Of particular concern to the Council is increased energy burden
28 in light of skyrocketing energy costs. The EAC published a brochure to help low-income
29 residents access programs and services three years ago and has decided to re-publish it with
30 updated information. In the intervening period Vital Communities has created a web page that
31 serves much of the same purpose: <https://VitalCommunities.org/energyhelp>. This website will
32 also be updated in the weeks and months ahead.

33 34 **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- 35 • Strategic Plan – with Shaun Mulholland.
- 36 • LEAC work priorities for 2022-2023.
- 37 • REC discussion.
- 38 • More Master Plan discussion.
- 39 • Landfill Gas-To-Energy update.
- 40 • Solar Phase 3 update.

41 42 **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **July 25, 2022**, 6:30 PM: Sherry Boschert will be presenting to the City Planning Board on EV infrastructure development.
- **August 7, 2022**, 1-5 PM: Sandwich Electric Vehicle, Tool and Solar Day, Town Hall parking lot, 8 Maple St., Center Sandwich, NH: <https://www.driveelectricnh.org/event-details/sandwich-electric-vehicle-tool-and-solar-day>.
- **August 19, 2022**: Deadline to apply for Clean School Bus grants through the Infrastructure bill.
- **September 24, 2022**: There will be a Kearsarge - Lake Sunapee EV Expo in New London as part of Drive Electric week. Greg asked if Tad or another City staff person could bring the Ford F150 to the event. For more info click [here](#).
- Saturday, September 24, 8 am-12 pm: 10th Annual Drive Electric Week Event, City Plaza New Hampshire State House, 7 North Main St., Concord, NH. More info [here](#).
- **September 25, 2022**, 8 am-5 pm: MassTuning TrackFest, Canaan Motor Club — A racetrack day for EV drivers only. Open to all including novices in regular street cars. No timed racing, no trophies. See more [here](#). See video of the East Coast's first EV track day in 2021 [here](#).

NEXT MEETING

Is scheduled for Thursday, August 18th at 4 PM, City Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Woody Rothe to adjourn the meeting at 5:44 PM. The motion was seconded by Jon Chaffee and was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Tad Montgomery

Below is the report on micro-grids from TRC, embedded in the Minutes as a PDF:



Microgrids 101

June 23, 2022

Alexander Tang
Associate Director, TRC