



LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Council Chambers, City Hall

October 20th, 2022

4:00 PM

-- FINAL --

MEMBERS PRESENT*: Greg Ames (Chair, remote), Jon Chaffee (Vice-Chair), Clifton Below (Council Representative), Woody Rothe, Sherry Boschert (remote)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Meghan Butts (alternate), Gene Homicki (alternate), Devin Wilkie (Council alternate)

STAFF PRESENT: Tad Montgomery, Rebecca Owens – Planning Office (remote)

GUESTS PRESENT: none.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Greg Ames at 4:04 PM.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Jon Chaffee moved to accept the July 2022 LEAC meeting minutes.

Woody Rothe seconded.

Roll Call:

The minutes were approved unanimously without change: (5-0)

OLD BUSINESS:

MASTER PLAN – ENERGY CHAPTER

Rebecca Owens presented another revised version of the Energy Chapter of the Master Plan and led a discussion on the revisions. This involved reviewing all previous revisions including the new Outcome 8 on equity. Tad Montgomery and Rebecca Owens will review and update the text earlier in the Chapter.

COMMUNITY POWER UPDATE

Asst. Mayor Below gave an update on the Community Power Coalition of NH (CPCNH). He said that Canterbury and Wilmot have now joined CPCNH, bringing membership to 22 communities, and he met recently with Concord's Financial Policy Committee which voted unanimously to send the proposal to join CPCNH to the City Council after legal review and a public hearing. The PUC recently adopted the municipal aggregation rules. CPCNH is in final negotiations with their energy vendor partners and for accounting services. They have first drafts written of their risk management policy, rates and reserves

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

policy, and energy risk policy. An RFP was written to hire a firm to search for a CEO for CPCNH and they have gotten eight responses. They are also drafting an RFP for accounting services. There was a very successful presentation of CPCNH at the Local Energy Solutions Conference on 10/14 that Calpine Energy and Ascent Analytics attended and presented at. CPCNH is negotiating with Clean Energy NH to provide member engagement support. The event was very well received. Work now is laying groundwork for public engagement in communities that might participate in 'wave one' so that sometime shortly after Jan. 1 there can be an orchestrated public outreach campaign. Clifton Below mentioned that there may be federal IRA funds to help develop the statewide data platform which will support CPCNH's work. He also said that the PUC aggregation rules require there to be a designated municipal aggregation contact for each member municipality, a designated data request person, and a designated staff person.

MOTION: *Jon Chaffee moved to recommend that, as per the NH PUC Rules recently adopted, the City designate Clifton Below as the Lebanon municipal aggregation committee contact person and data request person to the PUC and utility, and designate Tad Montgomery as staff support person for the committee. Sherry Boschert seconded.*

Roll Call:

The motion unanimously: (5-0)

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

No new news.

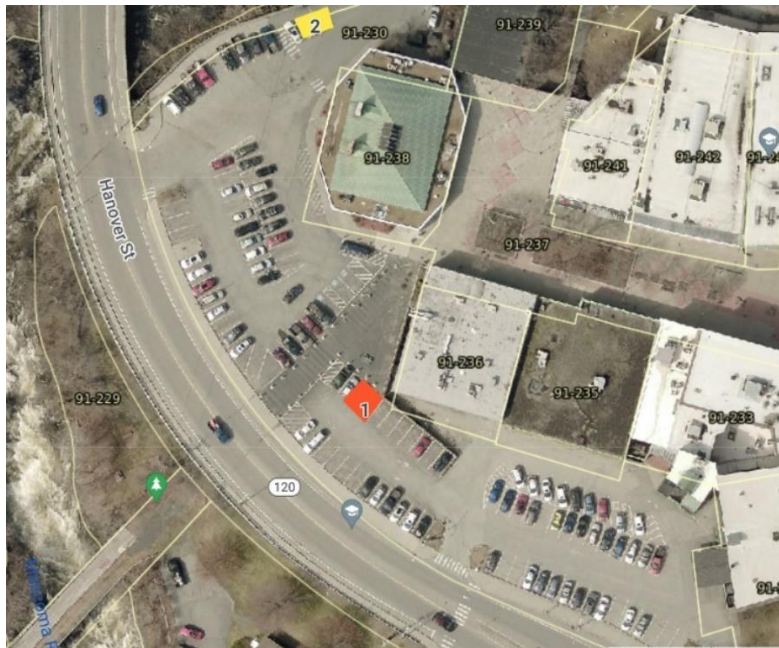
LANDFILL GAS-TO-ENERGY PROJECT

The microturbines arrived on 10/20/2022.



Sherry Boschert gave a summary of the most recent LEAC EV Subcommittee report.

Tad Montgomery gave a recap of work with General Motors on the free level 2 charging station and its recommended locations in the Hanover St. parking lot. He has drafted a proposal for this project for the City Manager that will be sent as soon as he gets an estimate of the City's portion of the costs of installation from Ted Makalinaw, the City Electrician. The two sites that have been well vetted by DPW staff are shown in the image below, with #1 preferable due to lower cost of installation. Site #2 would require a dedicated transformer, the pedestal would be at the street-sidewalk boundary, and cars would be backing out into a highly trafficked part of Taylor St. He also related points from a long conversation with the EV network operator Flo who will be managing the station for at least the first five years.



Sherry Boschert led a discussion of the letter that has been drafted (see agenda packet for this meeting) and is proposed to be sent to developers recommending that EV infrastructure be installed in the beginning stages of a development project.

The motion was seconded by Jon Chaffee.

The Motion was unanimously approved. (5-0)

February EV Subcommittee

Tad Montgomery mentioned that the Council Chambers' floor will be undergoing renovations in January/February and the February 12 EV Subcommittee meeting will likely take place at the Kilton Library. Under the current schedule for the renovation regular LEAC meetings will not be affected.

RENTAL DECARBONIZATION PILOT PROJECT

Jon Chaffee and Woody Rothe gave an update on the project to dramatically improve the energy performance of existing multi-unit housing in Lebanon. They are now working with three landlords. The biggest hurdle at this point is income verification of the tenants.

SOLAR

Phase 3 Solar: Tad Montgomery talked about his recent conversations with ReVision regarding the Phase 3 solar. They are reluctant to do solar trackers under a PPA for a few different reasons, but happy to do them if the City owns the arrays outright. The big task now is to determine the goals and objectives of the project. ReVision seems to be most interested in big projects that are easy to install. LEAC members suggested as one goal to maximize production, especially in winter.

SB 321: If Lebanon can launch the pilot project with Liberty that has been enabled through SB 321 then we could install 1.2 MW of solar in addition to the 800 kW exportable by the LFGTE project and sell much of it to offtakers in the City. This pilot enables direct sale of power intra-municipality to retail or Community Power customers with credit for capacity tag curtailment/bolstering and avoided transmission costs. This will improve the economics of battery storage and solar trackers substantially.

IRS Direct Pay: The federal IRA legislation enables government and municipal entities to receive the same federal subsidy for renewable energy system installation as private entities, which will be bumped back up to 30% of total project costs after 1/1/2023. Battery storage is eligible, too.

PUC and Net Metering: Clifton Below said that the NH PUC will be commencing a new proceeding on net metering on 1/5/2023 and said that the City might want to request to be an intervenor in this, both regarding the LFGTE and SB321 pilot projects.

NEW BUSINESS & OTHER NEWS:

CITY STRATEGIC PLAN

Tad Montgomery led a discussion of the City's new Strategic Planning process and read the list of suggestions that have come so far from LEAC members and others on the subjects of energy, facilities, and sustainability. Other suggestions that arose were:

- Progress on Building Energy Codes: new construction to be net-zero ready or other high-performance standard
- Progress on an Environmental Purchasing Policy
- A Plan to Transition All Facilities Off Fossil Fuels
- Climate Action Plan

- Previous Energy Audits and Retro-Commissioning Used to Identify Energy Saving Measures
- LCP Offer a 100% Green Electricity Option

MICRO-GRID

Tad Montgomery has been charged with reaching out to Liberty regarding the development of a micro-grid and the SB321 pilot.

ENERGY & FACILITY MANAGER'S REPORT

- Energy Action Council Tad Montgomery and Jon Chaffee attended the monthly EAC on 10/20/22 and reported that service agencies are becoming overwhelmed with people suffering from high energy prices and the energy burden.
- Window Inserts Tad Montgomery is involved in organizing the Hartford/Hartland Window Dresser program and would like to bring it to Lebanon. The challenge is finding reliable volunteers. Window inserts are removable storm windows that are double-glazed with plastic around a pine frame that is sized for each window. These units are most helpful when used in old, drafty windows. To get the project brought to Lebanon he and Human Services Director Lynn Goodwin are reaching out to Lebanon residents to get their feet wet by helping with the Hartford/Hartland project November 5-9 in Wilder. Volunteer sign-up info can be found at: <https://signup.com/go/YYoqGcv>
- Teams Settings Tad Montgomery mentioned that he has adjusted the settings for LEAC's Teams meetings that should allow people to enter the meeting directly without waiting in the 'lobby' and enable anyone to present.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- LEAC work priorities for 2022-2023
- REC discussion continued
- Master Plan – continued discussion
- Landfill Gas-To-Energy update
- Solar Phase 3 update

UPCOMING EVENTS

None were mentioned.

NEXT MEETING

Is scheduled for Thursday, November 17th at 4 PM, City Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

***Greg Ames moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 PM, seconded by Sherry Boschert.
The vote to adjourn was unanimously approved. (5-0)***

Respectfully submitted,

Tad Montgomery