



LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Council Chambers, City Hall

April 4th, 2023

6:30 PM

Special Meeting – Lebanon Community Power Public Forum

-- Final --

MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Ames (Chair, arrived at 7:28), Jon Chaffee (Vice-Chair), Clifton Below (Council Representative), Woody Rothe, Devin Wilke (Council Alternate), Sherry Boschert (remote).

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gene Homicki (alternate), Meghan Butts (alternate).

STAFF PRESENT: Tad Montgomery.

GUESTS PRESENT: roughly 68.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Jon Chaffee at 6:32 PM.

BUSINESS: Lebanon Community Power

LEAC members discussed Lebanon Community Power (LCP) and the Community Power Coalition of NH (CPCNH), with Clifton Below presenting. A PowerPoint presentation was given. The following audience members asked questions:

- Edmond Chris LaMontagne, Ward 1, asked how someone would know if they were net metered, and Clifton Below answered that it is generally associated with solar panels or Liberty's household battery pilot program.
- Ralph Winslow, Ward 2, asked a question about a statement made by a representative of the NH DOE's Customer Service division concerning net metered customers and Liberty. Clifton Below gave a history of utilities, net metered customers, and third party suppliers.
- Sue Painter, Ward 3, asked how rates will be negotiated, and Clifton Below answered with a description of the process that CPCNH is using.
- Curtis Clough, Ward 3, asked if reserve funds accumulated by the City vary by rate type, and if CPCNH has any obligations regarding how reserve funds are spent. Clifton Below answered with a description of the CPCNH reserve process.
- Melanie McDonough, Ward 2, asked a question about the complexity of a net metered home with both solar and battery storage, and unresolved billing issues.
- Robert Foor, Ward 2, asked about the vendors that LCP and CPCNH use, and renewable vs. non-renewable electricity.
- Don Hirst, a non-resident business owner in town, asked a question that contrasted LCP to a program that he is familiar with in Michigan.

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

- Ron Michaud, Ward 3, asked how the utilities determine electric use, and Clifton Below explained the process.
- Mary Davis, Ward 2, asked if there is a quota for the number of households that are needed to make LCP feasible, and if a low adoption rate would affect rates, and Clifton Below said that there is not a quota and rates would not be affected by low adoption if it occurred.
- Sam Strong, Ward 1, asked if Liberty might increase their delivery costs if there is a large number of residents who move over to LCP. Clifton Below answered that supply, which LCP is providing, is different from distribution of electricity, which Liberty will continue to provide, and that Liberty's supply costs to date have merely been a pass-through cost.

For the full Q&A session please refer to the video recording of this public forum available on the City's website: <https://lebanonnh.portal.civicclerk.com/event/1560/media>

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tad Montgomery