

FINAL

**LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY HALL MEETING ROOM OR
REMOTE VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORM
4:00PM, THURSDAY AUGUST 17, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Greg Ames (Chair), Jon Chaffee (Vice Chair), Woody Rothe, Clifton Below (City Council Rep.), Sherry Boschert, James Mashal (REMOTE), Henry Bromberg (REMOTE)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Devin Wilkie (Alt. Council Rep), Meghan Butts (alt)

STAFF ABESENT: Tad Montgomery (Energy & Facilities Manager)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Ames called the meeting to order at 4:15pm.

Mr. Bromberg said he was remote because he is currently in Canada and it was impractical for him to be present. Mr. Mashal said he was remote because work logistics prevent him from attending in person.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 20, 2023

A MOTION was made by Ms. Boschert to approve the July 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Chaffee.

Amendments: Page 2 Line 36: change “Block Power” to “BLOCPOWER”

** The Vote on the Motion was approved by roll call vote: Mashal: aye; Boschert: aye; Rothe: aye; Chaffee: aye; Bromberg: aye; Below: aye; Ames: aye (7-0)*

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Legislation/PUC Regulations/CPCNH Updates

Mr. Below gave an update from the latest Legislative session. He said Senate Bill 166, relative to grid modernization, was signed into law.

He said the hearing planned for last month on the jurisdictional issue for enabling pilot projects for limited producers (generators under 5 megawatts) had to be rescheduled to mid-September because the attorneys had a medical emergency.

He said there is a new idea to develop new net metering rates or tariffs and the utilities were to provide the first proposal. He said the PUC did not impose any restrictions on the net metering tariff rates for 1-5 megawatt projects, even though the PUC is supposed to make that determination. He said the Coalition, on behalf of its municipal

members, will seek to achieve what it has not been able to get with the 1-5-megawatt generators. He said this will be subject to further development.

He said he attended a prehearing meeting and technical session earlier today with PUC because PUC is requesting a waiver of some rules and parts of rules. He said Liberty and UNITIL said they feel they can comply with some things regarding providing usage data for net metering, but that still does not enable the Coalition to serve net-metered customers. He said there was a lot of discussion about a universal settlement that could allow all parties to work on constructive solutions collaboratively. He said the utilities may have come to understand that they do need to enable the Coalition to serve net-metered customers and time-of-use rate customers. He said he left the meeting feeling optimistic.

He said the Coalition now includes 38 members that represent $\frac{1}{4}$ of the state populations where they have municipal members. He also said the Coalition has leased office space at 20 West Park Street and that Coalition CEO, Brian Calnan, is hiring three more employees, including a Director of Power Resources.

B. Landfill Gas to Energy Updates

No update.

C. Municipal Solar Updates

No update.

D. Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Grant Application

No update

E. Report on Rental Decarbonization Pilot/Weatherization

Mr. Chaffee said he is still working on a pilot program with BLOCPOWER, which is a national weatherization and heat pump-installing company.

F. SHARC Energy Wastewater Heat Recovery

Mr. Bromberg said he attended a meeting on July 28 at the Hartford Wastewater Treatment plant. He said SHARC is working on a preliminary analysis of Lebanon projects. Mr. Below outlined the project sites that are potentially in consideration for the SHARC technology. He said there was a question in Hartford about whether the wastewater must be screened. Mr. Below said the only site in Lebanon where wastewater is screened is the Wastewater Treatment plant. Mr. Bromberg said he would keep the committee informed of any developments in the project analysis.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. EV Subcommittee Report

Ms. Boschert said that Mr. Mashal and Mr. Bromberg are welcome to join the EV Subcommittee.

She said she has an appointment in October with the new Lebanon School Superintendent to discuss electric buses.

She said plans for the “2023 Upper Valley EV Expo” on September 30, 10am-3pm are progressing. She said Lebanon Ford is the exclusive local car dealer sponsor for the event. She said a Zoom meeting for volunteers is going to be held. She said they are looking for donations for prizes and food/drink for the event. She asked LEAC members to help suggest possible speakers for presentations she’d like to have in City Hall during the event for in-person and remote visitors.

Ms. Boschert said she has been reaching out to employers to work on a statement to publicly thank EV-friendly employers on or near Labor Day in September. She said she drafted a proclamation to possibly send out as a press release that could coordinate with the Federal program, called EMPOWER, which encourages employers to offer EV charging at work for employees.

B. EV Motion: EV-friendly Employers Proclamation

Ms. Boschert read the proclamation she drafted to recognize EV-friendly employers in Lebanon:

Whereas the Lebanon Energy Advisory Committee is committed to promoting sustainable transportation options and reducing or eliminating greenhouse gas emissions, and whereas electric vehicles (EV) you do submissions by 2/3 compared with gasoline vehicles, even accounting for emissions created by electricity production and get cleaner as our electrical grid gets cleaner.

And whereas EBC drivers save drivers money compared with comparable gas vehicles thanks to greater efficiency, lower fuel costs and minimal maintenance.

And whereas the least expensive, safest, and most logical places to charge an EV are at home or at work for vehicles typically sit for eight or more hours at a time.

And whereas not everyone can charge at home, especially renters and residents of multi-unit housing, which makes charging it while at work, even more important, and whereas being an EV friendly employer can help with recruiting and retaining workers who want to drive EV.

And whereas Dartmouth Health provides more than 20 EV charge ports for employees at three sites, Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center, the Heater Rd clinic, and Alice Peck Day Hospital and Hyperthermia Associates provides at least seven charge ports at four of its buildings.

And Adimab recently installed EV charging for employees and Mascoma Bank offers employees an exceptionally low rate on loans to buy EV and local car dealers, including Nissan of Lebanon, Volvo and Volkswagen of Lebanon and Lebanon Ford provide EV charging per use by employees and others, whereas these employees serve as role models for forward thinking, employers throughout the Upper Valley.

Now therefore be it resolved by the Lebanon Energy Advisory Committee that we, the members of the Lebanon Energy Advisory Committee, express our gratitude to Dartmouth

Health Hyperthermia Associates, Mascoma Bank, Adimab, Nissan of Lebanon, Volvo and Volkswagen of Lebanon and Lebanon Ford and all other employers in Lebanon who make Evie charging available to their employees or otherwise facilitate adoption of EVs by employees.

We are grateful for their efforts to meet the needs of employees who drive EV and to create a sustainable and greener future for our City.

Also be it resolved that the members of the Lebanon Energy Advisory Committee express our gratitude to employers elsewhere in the Upper Valley who may employ Lebanon residents and who make some EV charging or other EV friendly policies available to employees, including in Hanover, NH: Dartmouth College and Kendal at Hanover; in Enfield, NH: Montcalm Golf Club; in Norwich, Vt: Soloflex EV; and in Hartford and White River Junction, Vt: the town of Hartford, Mascoma Bank, Key Chevrolet of White River, Upper Valley Honda, and All Star White River at the Gilman Office Center.

Lastly, be it resolved that the members of the Lebanon Energy Advisory Committee encourage other employers to take advantage of free assistance for installing EV charging for employees that is available from the Federal EMPOWER Program (Equitable Mobility Powering Opportunities for Workplace Electrification Readiness) by contacting EMPOWER at www.workplacecharging.com or jessica.wilcox@des.nih.gov.

A MOTION was made by Mr. Below that the Lebanon Energy Advisory Committee accept the EV-friendly Employers Proclamation as presented, and that the LEAC recommend it to the Lebanon City Council for similar adoption by the City Council. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Ames.

** The Vote on the Motion was approved by roll call vote: Mashal: aye; Boschert: aye; Rothe: aye; Chaffee: aye; Bromberg: aye; Below: aye; Ames: aye (7-0).*

C. Recent and Upcoming Conferences or Webinars of Note

Ms. Boschert said there is a webinar on Charge@Work for Infrastructure Week on October 14 at 2pm from the Electrification Coalition.

She said there is another webinar from the Electrification Coalition on October 19 at 2pm called, Looking Ahead: State of the EBSE Market and Projection.

She said she would share the links for the webinars with Chair Ames.

D. EFM Report

None

5. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

7. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by Mr. Chafee to adjourn the meeting at 5:14pm. The Motion was seconded by Mr. Ames.

**** The Vote on the Motion was approved by roll call vote: Mashal: aye; Boschert: aye; Rothe: aye; Chaffee: aye; Bromberg: aye; Below: aye; Ames: aye (7-0).***

The meeting was adjourned at 5:14pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Paula Roux
Recording Secretary