



ELECTRIC VEHICLE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

(Subcommittee of the Lebanon Energy Advisory Committee)

City Hall Council Chambers

January 11th 2024, 3:00 PM

-- Final --

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sherry Boschert (Chair), Clifton Below

MEMBERS ABSENT: Meghan Butts

STAFF PRESENT: Tad Montgomery, Energy & Facilities Manager

GUESTS PRESENT: Henry Bromberg – LEAC Chair, Bill Stearns, Tom Benzel

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order by Sherry Boschert at 3:04 PM.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Sherry Boschert moved to accept the December 2023 EV Subcommittee minutes; Clifton Below seconded. Approved unanimously.

3. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Granite State Clean Fleet Grant for Street Sweepers** – Tad Montgomery said that the NH DES had sent grant agreement documents to City staff the day before and Staff were in the process of reviewing and tweaking them.
- B. **Fleet Electrification Plan** – Tad Montgomery said that ADM-149: Electric Vehicle and Equipment Procurement Policy had gone through the 30-day Staff review process and been signed by the City Manager. He also said that he has received requests for copies of it from all over the country. Sherry Boschert and Clifton Below requested copies of the final version, and Mr. Below also asked that a copy be sent to Clean Energy NH and the Community Power Coalition.
- C. **Zoning Variance for the former Element Hotel** – Sherry Boschert said that the ZBA had decided not to award a variance for a different use at the Element Hotel.
- D. **Federal Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant** – Sherry Boschert said that the City had learned the day before that we have not been awarded this

grant. There was speculation as to why, and Ms. Boschert said that she would look more deeply into this. She also said that she would contact the project partners to inform them.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Drive Electric Earth Day Event** – Sherry Boschert described work that she and Bill Stearns have been doing to organize another drive electric event on April 21st. The event is planned for noon to 3 PM with setup starting at 10 AM and clean-up ending by 5 PM. They are focusing on the Shaws parking lot in West Lebanon because Rivian is installing new charging stations there and the Subcommittee members thought that this would be good publicity. Mr. Stearns has reached out to the landlord and if there is a positive response he will reach out to Rivian about possibly being the event's major sponsor. There was discussion about what organization might act as the event's fiscal sponsor that centered around the possibility of the City playing that role.

PROPOSAL: To be presented to LEAC – That LEAC be the lead sponsor for the 2024 Earth Day (Earth Month) Drive Electric event with Sherry Boschert and a group of volunteers doing the organizing. Moved by Sherry Boschert, seconded by Clifton Below. Unanimously approved.

- B. **City Staff Use of City EV Chargers** – Sherry Boschert led a discussion of a possible policy for Staff with electric vehicles to charge at City EV chargers. She said that this has become all the more urgent with the loss of the CFI grant since there are now no plans for new EV charging stations in the downtown area. Clifton Below discussed IRS rules around taxable benefits and said that he would look into this for EV charging. Ms. Boschert said that she would research what policies other local organizations have developed for staff use of organization-owned chargers. Dartmouth Hitchcock, King Arthur, Hypertherm, and the firm that Tom Benzel used to work for were mentioned, and Mr. Benzel said that he would reach out to the latter.
- C. **Fire Station Redevelopment** – Sherry Boschert asked if there has been any discussion of the new fire station including charging equipment for future EVs. Tad Montgomery said that he has not heard of any. Ms. Boschert said that she would reach out to Fire Chief Jim Wheatley on this.

- d. **EV Subcommittee Projects for 2024** – Ms. Boschert led a discussion on projects for this coming year. Ideas included EV events, publicizing incentives to encourage more EV adoption, and partnering with businesses and organizations to install more EV chargers.

OTHER NEWS

- Ms. Boschert said that she had won two video editing sessions from JAM. She intends to use a 30-second video to promote the Upper Valley EV Expo, and asked for input on what could be done with the 60-second video.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- **Drive Electric Earth Month Event** – to be held in West Lebanon on April 20th or 21st, TBD.
- **Upper Valley EV Expo** – New London will be hosting next fall's Upper Valley EV Expo on the last weekend in September. The Subcommittee discussed how best we could support it.

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, February 8th, 3 PM, Council Chambers, City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

Clifton Below moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:07 PM, seconded by Sherry Boschert. Seeing as there were only two members present, the motion passed without conflagration.

Respectfully submitted,

Tad Montgomery