

FINAL

**LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS OR  
REMOTE VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORM  
THURSDAY MARCH 21, 2024, 4:00PM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Henry Bromberg (Chair)(REMOTE), Jon Chaffee (Vice Chair), Clifton Below (City Council Rep.), Sherry Boschert, Tom Benzel, James Mashal

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Woody Rothe, Devin Wilkie (Alt. Council Rep)

**STAFF PRESENT:** Tad Montgomery (Energy & Facilities Manager), Shaun Mulholland (City Manager)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Bill Stearns

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Chaffee called the meeting to order at 4:05pm.

Chair Bromberg said was attending remotely because he is in New Mexico.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 15, 2024**

*A MOTION was made by Sherry Boschert to approve the February 15, 2024 Meeting Minutes. The Motion was seconded by James Mashal.*

**Roll Call Vote:**

**Voting in Favor –Mr. Bromberg, Mr. Benzel, Ms. Boschert, Mr. Below, James Mashal, Mr. Chaffee**

**Voting Against – None**

***\*The MOTION was approved (6-0).***

**3. STRATEGIC PLAN DISCUSSION**

**A. Strategic Plan Discussion – Energy, Sustainability, & Transportation**

City Manager Shaun Mulholland explained the goals of the City's Strategic Plan. The group discussed LEAC's feedback on specific items and the identified sustainability objectives that can be accomplished in the next one to two years (for example, 5% of City's vehicles/fleet are EVs).

City Manager Mulholland said it would be presented to the Council on April 23 or 25, so the committee has time to review the Strategic Plan and identify concrete, feasible action items. City Manager Mulholland discussed TIF funds and the possibility of EV Chargers at the Airport.

The group discussed City Manager Mulholland's highlighted comments to the Strategic Plan items, which were included in the agenda packet for this meeting.

Mr. Stearns left the meeting at 5:10pm. Mr. Below reminded him that he is not fully a member of LEAC until he completes his application and submits it to the City Clerk. Ms. Boschert said Mr. Stearns has a standing meeting at 5:00pm so she suggested LEAC may want to change the time it meets. She suggested this be added as a future agenda item.

#### **4. OLD BUSINESS**

##### **A. Legislation/PUC Regulations/CPCNH Updates/ LCP updates; CPCNH Publicity Campaign**

Mr. Below said House Bill 1600, which would make clear that municipal hosts under group net metering (generators up to 5 megawatts) could be used to offset the load of community power aggregations, passed in the House.

He said there may be a settlement in the net metering docket. He said there will be a status conference on April 11.

##### **B. Landfill Gas to Energy Updates**

Mr. Below gave an overview of the status of the Landfill Gas Energy project, which he said is getting closer to construction and will probably go online later this year.

##### **C. Municipal Solar Updates**

Mr. Montgomery said he and Mr. Below met with All Earth Renewables about the status of net metering in NH.

He said he, Ms. Boschert, Asst. DPW Director Chris Kilmer, and Rebecca Owens (of the Planning Department) have been participating in a Green Procurement Boot Camp at Harvard Kennedy School and learning the best practices in issuing green procurement.

##### **D. Rental Decarbonization Pilot Project**

Mr. Chaffee said they have dropped heat pumps, water heaters and weatherization from the plan, and are now proposing installing heat pumps in buildings that have already been weatherized. He said the cost of the plan is now \$1.5 million, and they hope to get the grant application for it in by April 1, 2024.

##### **E. EV Subcommittee Report: Drive Electric Earth Day Event; Public Charging Stations; Public Outreach/Education**

Ms. Boschert reminded the group about the EV Expo planned for Earth Day on April 21. She said anyone who would like to show their car should visit [nhev.org](http://nhev.org) to register.

She said she and Mr. Montgomery have been meeting with City Manager Mulholland to discuss using the TIF funds earmarked for economic development to add more EV chargers. She said they are planning to add at least one fast charger (Level 1) in downtown Lebanon – one possible site is Hanover Street Parking lot. She said they are also identifying sites in downtown Lebanon for Level 2 chargers. The group discussed the pros and cons of locating chargers next to transformers.

Mr. Mashal said he has a meeting next week with the West Lebanon Revitalization Committee and the EDS about a TIF area in West Lebanon. Ms. Boschert said their goal is to have EV charging in downtown Lebanon before the end of the year.

#### **F. City Master Plan-Energy Chapter Update**

No update

### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. Collaboration with Regional Organizations for Greater Focus and Impact**

No update

#### **B. Alternate Board Member Seat on CPCNH**

Ms. Boschert said she would reach out to former Chair Greg Ames and ask him to formally resign from the CPCNH so James Mashal from LEAC can be appointed.

***A MOTION was made by Sherry Boschert that the LEAC recommends the appointment of James Mashal as an alternate representative to the CPCNH after Greg Ames resigns. The MOTION was seconded by Clifton Below.***

***Roll Call Vote:***

***Voting in Favor –Mr. Bromberg, Mr. Benzel, Ms. Boschert, Mr. Below, Mr. Chaffee***

***Voting Against – None***

***Mr. Mashal abstained from the vote.***

***\*The MOTION was approved (5-0).***

### **6. ENERGY & FACILITIES MANAGER REPORT**

Mr. Montgomery discussed the following:

- Novo Nordisk – he said that a facility manager there, Richard Otis, has offered to give a tour to members of LEAC and the Hartford Energy Commission, of which Mr. Otis is a member. Interested LEAC members should contact him.
- He has recently looked at the CBCNH Discussion of RECs on their FAQ Forum #23, and it page is quite comprehensive.

### **7. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

No members of the public spoke.

## 8. UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Upper Valley Earth Day EV Expo:** April 21st, 12-3PM in the Shaw parking lot, West Lebanon.
- **Energize the Upper Valley:** April 6th, 10AM-3PM, at the Hartford Town Hall, workshops on weatherization and home electrification with lunch in between, which is free, but registration is required: <http://tinyurl.com/EnergizeUV>
- **NH State Energy Conference:** April 10th at the Edward Cross Training Center in Pembroke. Panels & Presentations, breakfast/lunch, Energy Emporium: Vendor Hall to highlight energy efficient products and technology; EV Ride & Drive Event: Kick the tires, look under the "Frunk" and test drive an array of EV's, many of which are listed for procurement on the State Vehicle Contract. To Register: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/qv4yh7v>
- **NH Energy Week:** May 6-10 with Awards Ceremony on May 10 – anyone can nominate someone for an Award at [NHenergyfuture.org](http://NHenergyfuture.org)

## 9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Benzel said he and Mr. Rothe met with Deputy City Manager David Brooks to discuss ways to use energy efficient standards for the city-owned housing project that is being planned. He said they will meet with Mayor McNamara next week to discuss it further.

Possible change of meeting time to accommodate Mr. Stearns.

## 10. ADJOURNMENT

***A MOTION was made by Clifton Below to adjourn the meeting at 6:01pm. The Motion was seconded by Sherry Boschert.***

***Roll Call Vote:***

***Voting in Favor –Mr. Bromberg, Mr. Benzel, Ms. Boschert, Mr. Below, James Mashal, Mr. Chaffee***

***Voting Against – None***

***\*The MOTION was approved (6-0).***

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Paula Roux  
Recording Secretary