



ELECTRIC VEHICLE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

(Subcommittee of the Lebanon Energy Advisory Committee)

City Hall Council Chambers

April 11th 2024, 3:00 PM

-- Final --

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sherry Boschert (Chair), Tom Benzel, Clifton Below.

MEMBERS ABSENT: none.

STAFF PRESENT: Tad Montgomery, Energy & Facilities Manager (minutes)

GUESTS PRESENT: Bill Stearns (LEAC member), Henry Bromberg (LEAC Chair), Vijay Prithiv

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

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Tom Benzel moved to accept the March 2024 EV Subcommittee minutes;
Sherry Boschert seconded. Approved unanimously.

3. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. **Granite State Clean Fleet Grant for Street Sweepers** – Tad Montgomery gave an update of the grant. The project budget has gone through another revision and DPW Staff will be requesting a supplemental appropriation from City Council. There is the hope or expectation that most City expenses for this project will be covered through the federal Direct Pay financial incentive.
- B. **Employee EV Charging Policy** – Sherry Boschert and Tad Montgomery discussed a draft policy that Ms. Boschert has written for City Staff use of City EV chargers. One issue that was discussed was how City staff can most easily track usage of their EV charging and recompense the City, since current City EVCE are not networked or connected to the internet and cannot track usage. Mr. Below suggested the use of CT meters, which cost \$200-400 and can perform this service through connection to a local WIFI system. Other members of the Committee expressed an interest in reviewing and commenting on the draft policy, and Ms. Boschert said that she would send it around. Tad Montgomery asked that comments be sent to him.
- C. **Drive Electric Earth Day Event** – Sherry Boschert and Bill Stearns gave an

update on the organizing for this event, happening Sunday, April 21st, noon to 3 PM, in the Shaw's parking lot in West Lebanon. There are now 24 electric vehicles registered to participate. The website for this event is: NHEV.org. There will be talks at the event on winter driving, financial incentives in NH & VT, and EV charging. Sherry Boschert and Junction Arts Media are developing two short videos to publicize the event.

- D. **EV Infrastructure Plan for Lebanon TIF District** – Ms. Boschert gave an update on recent work on this project. She, Tad Montgomery, and Clifton Below recently walked the downtown area discussing possible sites in detail, and Mr. Below showed them the online Liberty utility map that gives the location and capacity of different lines and locations on the local grid. While in the Hanover St. parking lot they met the owner of 20 West Park St., who expressed a strong interest in hosting EVCE on his property next to the parking lot. Ms. Boschert & Mr. Montgomery are drafting an RFP for this TIF District EVCE in conjunction with their participation in a Harvard Kennedy School bootcamp on green procurement.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Welcome Bill Stearns** – Sherry Boschert welcomed Bill Stearns to LEAC, and to the EV Subcommittee as soon as Chair Bromberg has a chance to appoint him.
- B. **New EV Technologies** – Tom Benzel gave an overview of a new Level 2 EVCE that he has been researching, manufactured by [EVSE LLC](#) based in Connecticut. They mount to a utility pole, can have one (\$5,400) or two (\$9,000) ports, have retractable cables that reduce trip hazards, and can be combined with an additional networking system called Amped-Up for \$1,300 plus an annual subscription fee. Mr. Benzel said that there has been a pilot of this EVCE in Burlington since Oct. 2023. Mr. Below mentioned another pilot that National Grid has been undertaking in Melrose, MA since 2021.

Mr. Below discussed a new Level 3 EVCE called Gravity that Google has invested in. It is AC only, can charge nine times faster than a standard Level 2, and has the capability of bi-directional charging. Mr. Below has requested information from the company but has not heard back yet. Information on this EVCE can be found [here](#).

- C. **Solar e-Bike Charging Stations** – Mr. Montgomery discussed the preliminary stages of e-bike charging station development in West Lebanon

(Kilton Library) and downtown Lebanon that has been directed by the City Manager. A meeting is being organized for stakeholders to give input and start the planning process for this project.

- D. Draft Letter to School Board** – Ms. Boschert described a letter that she had just drafted to School Board members encouraging them to consider bus fleet electrification.

E. Other:

- Strategic Plan – Tad Montgomery mentioned EV elements in the Strategic Plan process and recommended that EV Subcommittee members attend the City Council meeting where this will be discussed, tentatively set for April 25th.
- Solar EVCE Proposal to City Council – Tad Montgomery said that a proposal for Solaflect-type EV chargers will be discussed by the City Council at their meeting on April 17th. This is part of the TIF District EVCE project. Ms. Boschert described other solar EVCE that she and Mr. Montgomery have been researching, including one called [Beam Global](#).
- E-Bike Sharing Program – Vijay Prithiv said that he thought that the four towns around Dartmouth would make a great place for an e-bike sharing program: Hanover, Norwich, Hartford, and Lebanon.
- Multi-Unit Housing EVCE – Mr. Prithiv also expressed an interest in getting public EVCE installed at condos and apartment complexes. Ms. Boschert said that New Jersey got a grant recently to install EVCE at all apartment complexes in the state, and she would like to apply for something similar for the Upper Valley, perhaps in a future CFI grant round.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- **Drive Electric Earth Day Event** – to be held in West Lebanon on Sunday, April 21st, noon-3 PM, at 10 Benning Street, West Lebanon (Shaw's supermarket parking lot).
- **Upper Valley EV Expo** – New London will host the 2024 Upper Valley EV Expo on the last weekend in September.

NEXT MEETING:

Thursday, May 9th, 3 PM, Council Chambers, City Hall.

ADJOURNMENT:

Clifton Below moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:19 PM, seconded by Tom Benzel. The motion passed unanimously without a hint of consternation.

Respectfully submitted,

Tad Montgomery