



LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LEAC)
MAY 16, 2024 - 4:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL OR
REMOTE VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORM
LEBANONNH.GOV/LIVE

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- 1. Call to Order**
 - 2. Approval of Minutes**
 - A. April 18, 2024
 - 3. Old Business**
 - A. Legislation / PUC Regulations / CPCNH / LCP updates; CPCNH Publicity Campaign
 - B. Landfill Gas to Energy Project
 - C. Municipal Solar
 - D. Rental Decarbonization Pilot Project
 - E. EV Subcommittee Report: Drive Electric Earth Day Event; Public Charging Stations; Public Outreach / education; Draft letter re: electric school bus
 - F. Include energy efficiency standards as part of the City's affordable housing initiative
 - G. City Strategic Plan - Update
 - H. City Master Plan -Energy Chapter Update
 - 4. New Business**
 - A. Glen Hydroelectric facility re-licensing
 - B. Develop a decal for City buildings' front entrances calling attention to the City's use of 100% renewable electricity through CPCNH's Clean 100
 - C. NH Climate Action Plan
 - 5. Energy & Facilities Manager Report**
 - 6. Open to the Public**
 - 7. Upcoming Events**
 - 8. Future Agenda Items**
 - 9. Adjournment**

Meetings are open for in-person and remote attendance. Members of the public that wish to attend remotely may do so by going to LebanonNH.gov/Live where you will find instructions on how to enter the meeting. Members of the public will be able to participate and ask questions through the City's virtual platform or by phone. Please note: Should technical difficulties occur during the meeting that disrupts virtual or phone connection(s), the meeting will

continue without remote access capabilities.

AGENDA

LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE(LEAC)

May 16, 2024

AGENDA ITEM 2

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

APRIL 18, 2024

DRAFT

**LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS OR
REMOTE VIA VIRTUAL PLATFORM
THURSDAY APRIL 18, 2024, 4:00PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Henry Bromberg (Chair), Jon Chaffee (Vice Chair), Clifton Below (City Council Rep.), Sherry Boschert (REMOTE), Tom Benzel, Woody Rothe, James Mashal, Patrick Kennelly (Planning Board Rep.), Bill Stearns

MEMBERS ABSENT: Devin Wilkie (Alt. Council Rep)

STAFF PRESENT: Tad Montgomery (Energy & Facilities Manager)

OTHERS PRESENT: Sophia Donforth, VT/NH Energy Education Program

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

Chair Bromberg announced that Mr. Patrick Kennelly has been appointed as the Planning Board Representative for LEAC.

Ms. Boschert said she is attending remotely out of health concerns for a family member ~~with COVID~~.

A presentation by Ms. Sophia Donforth of Vermont New Hampshire Energy Education, which was listed as item 7. B. on the meeting agenda, was given next.

7. UPCOMING EVENTS

B. Presentation by Sophia Donforth, VEEP/NHEEP (Vermont and NH Energy Education Program)

Ms. Danforth gave an overview of the VEEP/NHEEP. She said the program's workshops aim to help people gain a scientific understanding of where energy comes from and how energy usage impacts the climate and what we can do about that. She said there are programs for adults and children. She said anyone who is interested in learning more can contact her or visit the website. She also said that NHEEP has a funder for programs in NH.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 21, 2024

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Amendments: Page 4 Line 23: Change “Mr. Mashal” to “Mr. Benzel”
Page 4 Line 25: Change “Tom McNair” to “Mayor MacNamara”

A MOTION was made by Jon Chaffee to approve the March 21, 2024 Meeting Minutes as amended. The Motion was seconded by James Mashal.

Roll Call Vote:

Voting in Favor – Mr. Bromberg, Mr. Rothe, Mr. Benzel, Mr. Stearns, Mr. Below, Mr. Mashal, Mr. Chaffee, Ms. Boschert

Voting Against – None

**The MOTION was approved (8-0).*

3. OLD BUSINESS

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

Mr. Below said the Senate held a hearing on 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. He said the Department of Energy had some amendments and it is still under review.

He said the NH PUC is scheduled to hold~~re-was~~ a prehearing conference on the net metering docket. He said ~~the this~~ hearings ~~has~~~~ve~~ been pushed back to August because of schedule conflicts.

He said the Coalition now includes 54 member communities and about 54~~36~~% of the state’s population. He said ~~Mr.~~ Bobby~~Joe~~ Michael has been hired as director of administrative services and Ms. Adina~~Deana~~ Dennis has been hired as director of regulatory affairs. He said Mr. Andrew Hatch and a senior data analyst have been working remotely through the Resilient Buildings Group, as well. He said seven board member seats are up for re-election, and there are exactly seven candidates for those seats. He said an item on the May CPCNH Council agenda will be to appoint Mr. Mashal as the alternative representative for Lebanon. CPCNH will be sending a second letter to new electric accounts soon to inform them that they will be enrolled automatically in CPCNH.

B. Landfill Gas to Energy Updates

Mr. Below said the City Council approved the supplemental appropriation for the accumulated costs of delays and reengineering parts of the project at the April 17 City Council meeting. He said the project may come online later this year.

Chair Bromberg said the next item will be 4.B., which is out of the order of the meeting’s agenda.

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4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Possible time change for monthly LEAC meeting

The group agreed to change the meeting time for the monthly LEAC meeting from ~~4p-6 PM~~ to 3:30~~pm~~-5:30 on the third Thursday of each month.

A MOTION was made by James Mashal to change the meeting time for the LEAC monthly meeting from 4pm to 3:30pm. The Motion was seconded by Tom Benzel.

Roll Call Vote:

Voting in Favor – Mr. Bromberg, Mr. Rothe, Mr. Benzel, Mr. Stearns, Mr. Below, Mr. Mashal, Mr. Chaffee, Ms. Boschert

Voting Against – None

**The MOTION was approved (8-0).*

Mr. Stearns left the meeting at 4:50pm.

5. OLD BUSINESS

C. Municipal Solar Updates

Mr. Montgomery said he is in the process of writing the RFP, which will not be issued until sometime after August to accommodate pending changes reflected in State Legislation and PUC rules. He said he has been considering three questions:

- The status of the net metering legislation and whether we can do more than one megawatt
- Ownership by a PPA, or City of Lebanon, or with a lease
- How to write an RFP that uses language regarding federal incentives such as Direct Pay that will allow-obtain the maximum benefit with minimum hassle

He said he attended a very good online webinar on federal incentives for solar that was organized by the New Hampshire Network. He said the presenter was from Clean Energy, New Hampshire.

D. Rental Decarbonization Pilot Project

Mr. Chaffee said he submitted the Carbon Pollution Reduction ~~Implementation~~ Grant application by April 1, but it was rejected without being considered because ~~he said~~ the application did not meet the \$2 million minimum requirement. He said Ms. Rebecca Owens has requested a hearing with the EPA to reconsider and they have agreed to the meeting.

1 Mr. Below asked if Mr. Chaffee could send him a copy of the application because he
2 could possibly use the information for another Grid Resilience Innovation Partnership
3 grant application.

4
5 Mr. Chaffee said that a UNH intern will be working in Lebanon May 29-Aug. 19 to
6 compile a database of Lebanon households in preparation for a city-wide residential
7 building decarbonization project. There was a discussion regarding considerations for
8 how to publicize the sharing of anonymized data from low-moderate income households
9 to assist with this project, possibly through collaboration with CPCNH.

10
11 **E. EV Subcommittee Report: Drive Electric Earth Day Event; Public Charging**
12 **Stations; Public Outreach/Education**

13 Chair Bromberg appointed Bill Stearns as a member of the EV Subcommittee.

14
15 Ms. Boschert said the agenda packet for this meeting included a draft letter to the City
16 Council requesting it contact the Lebanon School Board regarding the EV
17 Subcommittee's request to the School District to consider the purchase and
18 implementation of electric school buses.

19
20 *A MOTION was made by Sherry Boschert that the LEAC approve the draft letter (as*
21 *presented and with some minor changes made by Ms. Boschert and approved by Chair*
22 *Bromberg) and request that the Lebanon City Council forward the letter to the*
23 *Lebanon School Superintendent and the Lebanon School Board. The Motion was*
24 *seconded by Jon Chaffee.*

25
26 **Roll Call Vote:**

27 **Voting in Favor – Mr. Bromberg, Mr. Rothe, Mr. Benzel, Mr. Below, Mr. Mashal, Mr.**
28 **Chaffee, Ms. Boschert**

29 **Voting Against – None**

30
31 **The MOTION was approved (7-0).*

32
33 Mr. Montgomery said the City Council voted at the April 17 meeting to approve
34 supplemental appropriations for the Street Sweeper Grant of roughly \$53,000 to cover
35 additional expenses that were the result of negotiations with NH DES.

36
37 She Ms. Boschert said the EV Subcommittee is finalizing work on a Lebanon workplace
38 charging program to allow Lebanon employees to use two existing EV chargers at cost.

39
40 Ms. Boschert said the EV Expo is planned for Earth Day on April 21. She said there will
41 be 30 electric vehicles representing 21 different models, and 169 participants hgave pre-
42 registered. She said she has developed a survey monkey that will be available online to
43 participants and residents during the Expo. She asked Committee members for their input
44 on survey questions.
45

1 She said she has been meeting with City Manager Mulholland to discuss using the TIF
2 funds earmarked for economic development to add more EV chargers. She said he
3 suggested a solar powered charger that would be free standing and not connected to the
4 network. She said he said it would be a good candidate because it is somewhat portable,
5 because the location is in a downtown parking lot that will be under construction, and he
6 did not want anything permanently installed during construction. Mr. Below said he
7 asked the Coalition's CEO Brian Callnan about whether the Coalition could manage the
8 proposed chargers and manage the revenue. He said he was very excited about the idea.

9
10 Ms. Boschert said Mr. Benzel had presented details about a new type of pole-mounted
11 EV charger being piloted in Burlington, VT. Mr. Benzel and Mr. Montgomery have a
12 meeting with Liberty Utilities to review the specifications. Mr. Montgomery-Benzel said
13 they are \$10,000 for a two-station-port charging device.

14
15 **F. Include Energy Efficiency Standards as part of City's Affordable Housing Initiative**

16 Mr. Chaffee-Rothe said that he and Mr. Benzel have met with the Mayor, Deputy City
17 Manager, and Planning Director to discuss the City's new pattern zoning projects and if
18 energy efficiency standards could be incorporated into the design and there could be an
19 accelerated permit process. He said they met with City Manager Mulholland who said
20 they will have the ability to look at the building specs and see if the energy efficiency
21 could be enhanced.

22 He said he had two goals:

- 23 • LEAC could advise the City Council on making these buildings more energy
24 efficient
- 25 • An Energy Efficient proposal can be presented at the public hearings for the patterned
26 zoning project

27
28
29 Mr. Benzel said the City Manager was supportive of possibly using heat pumps and
30 possibly solar panels on the buildings as well.

31 Mr. Chaffee said the City Manager said he would share the specs as soon as he has them.
32
33

34 **G. City Master Plan-Energy Chapter Update**

35 Chair Bromberg said he and Mr. Montgomery have met with members of the Planning
36 Office re the Chapter 13 rewrite. He is now reviewing the Energy Chapter 13 of the
37 Master Plan and asked if members of LEAC would be willing to champion the rewriting
38 of Chapter 13. He said that LEAC will be working with Cate Hembree on this from now
39 on as she is taking over from Rebecca Owens. He asked anyone interested to contact him.
40

41 **4. NEW BUSINESS**

42
43 **A. LEAC Board Member Seats**

44 Chair Bromberg welcomed Mr. Stearns as a LEAC member and congratulated Ms.
45 Boschert for being reinstated and continuing her participation in LEAC.

Mr. Chaffee said he attended the Environmental Justice Task Force, and he said that Mr. Richard Ford Burley (of the EJTF) asked LEAC to let him know what LEAC's priority would be for the Planning Board to consider. Mr. Chaffee said he told him updated energy building codes would be the LEAC priority. Mr. Chaffee said he would be willing to work on Chapter 13 if the Planning Board ~~will consider~~considers working on stretch codes.

5. ENERGY & FACILITIES MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Montgomery discussed the following:

- He ~~received-presented~~ a graph based on data from Liberty Utilities on power outages. ~~data— H~~he said just in this district, there were 2,600 outages over the last 10 years with an increasing rate of 10% each year.
- He talked to LCI and & C—Power about getting proposals to manage the City's demand response. He said they asked him to provide a year's worth of hourly interval data for our two big wastewater plants, which he has requested from Liberty. He said the proposals will be presented to ~~the City Council at the April 25 meeting~~DPW management and City Manager.
- He discussed artificial intelligence and its expected exponential growth in power usage. ~~a NY Times article he read on AI.~~
- He may have to take some time ~~away from work to take care of his mother~~off soon to attend to family matters.

6. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

No members of the public spoke.

7. UPCOMING EVENTS

None

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

9. ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION was made by James Mashal to adjourn the meeting at 5:57pm. The Motion was seconded by Jon Chaffee.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Voting Against – None

**The MOTION was approved (7-0).*

- 1 The meeting was adjourned at 5:57pm.
- 2
- 3 Respectfully Submitted,
- 4 Paula Roux
- 5 Recording Secretary

AGENDA

LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE(LEAC)

May 16, 2024

AGENDA ITEM 4

NEW BUSINESS:

B. LCP CLEAN 100 WINDOW DECALS



AGENDA

LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE(LEAC)

May 16, 2024

AGENDA ITEM 4

NEW BUSINESS:

C. NH CLIMATE ACTION PLAN- Update Spring 2024 Info Sheet



New Hampshire Climate Action Plan – Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Update

Spring 2024 Information Sheet

Background

In August 2023, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) received a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) from EPA to plan for ambitious greenhouse gas (GHG) pollution reductions and achieve three broad objectives:

1. Reduce GHG pollution while creating good jobs and lowering energy costs for families;
2. Accelerate empower community-driven solutions in low-income, disadvantaged communities (LIDACs);
3. Reduce harmful air pollution in places where people live, work, play, and go to school.

Priority Climate Action Plan

On March 1, 2024, NHDES submitted [New Hampshire's Priority Climate Action Plan \(PCAP\)](#) to EPA. The PCAP builds on existing state & regional programs, past & present state energy data, policies, and initiatives in various sectors. Timely submittal of the PCAP allowed NHDES to apply for CPRG funding to implement many of the priority measures listed in the PCAP. The measures, if implemented, would result in near-term and cost-effective reductions in New Hampshire's GHG emissions while achieving the three broad objectives of the CPRG program. In addition, the PCAP provides the basis for New Hampshire's forthcoming Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) and Status Report, which are deliverables of the CPRG planning grant that NHDES received.

Priority Measures:

- **Transportation** – Electric Charging Infrastructure for Electric Vehicles; Incentives for Consumer Purchase of Electric Passenger Vehicles; Expanded Public Transit Options
- **Residential Buildings** – Heat Pumps to Improve Energy Efficiency of Space and Water Heating of Buildings; Weatherization to Improve Energy Efficiency in Residential Buildings; Pre-Weatherization to Improve Energy Efficiency in Residential Buildings
- **Local Government Buildings and Facilities** – Resilient Local Energy Systems; Energy Efficiency Improvements at Wastewater and Drinking Water Systems
- **Waste and Materials Management** – Expand Programs for Waste Reduction, Diversion and Recycling
- **Workforce Development** – Workforce Development of Skilled Trades to Support Priority Measures

Implementation Grants

On April 1, 2024, New Hampshire was included in three applications submitted to the EPA for [CPRG Implementation Grants](#), joining other states, municipalities, and coalitions that applied for federal funding to implement measures identified the [126 PCAPs that EPA received](#).

1. **New Hampshire State Application** (\$50 million) – NHDES' Implementation Grant Application includes six (6) measures from the PCAP, levels of proposed fundings for each, and details funding distribution: *Pre-weatherization and Weatherization; Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure; Support & Expand Public*



Transportation Options; Wastewater and Drinking Water Systems; Waste and Materials Management; and Workforce Development.

1. **New England Heat Pump Accelerator Program Coalition** (\$500 million across 5 state coalition of CT, MA, ME, NH and RI) – A program to leverage the power of a multistate market to rapidly accelerate adoption of cold-climate air-source heat pumps, heat pump water heaters, and ground source heat pumps in single-family and multifamily residential buildings across the region.
2. **States Supporting Resilient Local Energy Coalition Program** \$500 million to be shared equally across coalition of HI, AZ, ME, MD, MI, MS, NH, NJ, NM, NC, OK, RI, UT, VA and WI) – A program to provide financial assistance to support the deployment of solar plus storage or other similar zero-emitting electricity generation and storage systems at public buildings.

EPA expects to notify applicants of funding selection in July 2024 and make funds available in October 2024.

Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP)

By August 2025, NHDES must submit a CCAP, which will be a narrative report that must include the following elements: a GHG inventory; near and long-term GHG reduction targets and projections; GHG reduction measures to achieve reduction targets; a benefits analysis for implementing the measures beyond reducing GHG emissions; workforce planning analysis to implement the measures; a description of NHDES's authority to implement the measures; and a review of available federal funding to implement the measures.

Continuing Engagement

Each climate action plan requires meaningful community engagement. The continuing efforts to identify climate actions priorities must actively involve the participation of people who live in communities who experience a disproportionate burden of environmental hazards that affect their quality of life. New Hampshire's PCAP and implementation measures were informed by community outreach and engagement in the fall of 2023 and winter 2024. As NHDES implements GHG measures listed in the PCAP (if EPA awards NHDES a CPRG Implementation Grant) and develops the CCAP, NHDES and its partners will continue to:

- Give updates on measures and implementation, as invited, and build networks with municipalities, planning and conservation commissions, advocacy groups, school technical programs and training centers, and business and industry groups.
- Attend monthly forums hosted by groups discussing environmental issues facing LIDAC communities.
- Staff information tables at community gatherings such as sustainability fairs and school science day and advocate events such as youth climate summits.
- Participate in conferences and annual meetings of groups.

For more information about the CPRG program, please visit NHDES's website at: [Climate Pollution Reduction Grants | NH Department of Environmental Services](#). For any questions, please contact NHDES at cprg@des.nh.gov.

For information about NHDES's community engagement for CPRG program, please visit the following website of NHDES's partner, New Hampshire Listens: [Updating the New Hampshire Climate Action Plan | New Hampshire Listens \(unh.edu\)](#).