

LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Due to the Covid 19 Pandemic, the meeting was held virtually via MS Teams

October 15, 2020

4:00 PM

FINAL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Clifton Below (Chair, Council Representative), Greg Ames (Vice-Chair) Joan Monroe (Planning Board Representative), Jon Chaffee, Meghan Butts, Woody Rothe, Gene Homicki (alternate)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Tad Montgomery, Everett Hammond, Marc Morgan

GUESTS PRESENT: None

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Clifton Below at 4:01 PM. Clifton appointed Gene Homicki to fill the empty Lebanon High School student position.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: Meghan moved to accept the 9/17/2020 minutes as presented; Joan seconded. Approved unanimously, with minor corrections, by roll call vote. Joan moved to accept the 8/20/2020 minutes as presented; Gene seconded. Approved unanimously, with minor corrections, by roll call vote.

REVIEW AND DISCUSS LANDFILL GAS-TO-ENERGY (LFGTE) PROJECTS & ANEROBIC DIGESTER STUDY: Marc gave an update on landfill gas utilization. They are investigating 2 possible options – (a) using the gas to generate electricity via microturbines, or (b) selling the raw gas. The current planned gas conditioning equipment will not sufficiently clean the gas for general purpose sales. The necessary electric grid (Slayton Hill substation and/or transmission grid) upgrades for option (a) are still unknown, and construction for these upgrades could take 18-24 months. Because of these unknowns and timeline, Marc is investigating option (b) as a possible quicker option to move forward. Marc has an upcoming presentation scheduled for the City Council meeting on 10/21. Current plan is to propose sale of raw gas in the short term, with conversion to electrical generation in the future when more practical. Anerobic digester study should wrap up by the beginning of November. The study is investigating locations (landfill or wastewater treatment plant), possible feedstocks from the landfill, and any other operational issues. Possible electric generation of 300 kW plus obtaining useful heat for processes at the wastewater treatment plant.

UPDATES & ISSUES IN ONGOING PROJECTS:

- **City Solar:** SolarEdge has a new version of their optimizer that operates on a different frequency, which should eliminate the radio frequency interference (RFI) issues. The new optimizers will be installed at the Police Station and tested. If testing shows the RFI is eliminated, the solar at the landfill maintenance building will be reinstalled with these new optimizers. Solar on the airport hangers turns out to not be cost effective, due to required electrical system upgrades at the hangers. However, ReVision is interested in moving forward with a ground mount system at the airport. Clifton presented a financial analysis of the proposed solar system at the airport terminal; it is unclear if this system will be cost effective.
- **LED Streetlight Conversion Project:** A photometric study is underway to ensure the lighting from the new LED street lighting will be equal to, or better than, the current lights being replaced. Two new crosswalk lights are planned. Further analysis is ongoing. Construction is expected to start in December, allowing the City to qualify for NH Saves rebates for 2020 and 2021.
- **Lebanon Community Power (LCP) & Community Power New Hampshire (CPNH)/Public Utility Commission (PUC) Rulemaking for Community Power/PUC Data Platform Docket, DE 19-197:**
Rulemaking discussions are progressing. Clifton gave an update at the last City Council meeting (see those minutes). Discussions at the PUC with the various parties are ongoing. A PUC stakeholder meeting is scheduled for 10/28; interested parties are encouraged to attend. Clifton will forward meeting information to the committee.
- **Energy & Facilities Manager Updates** – No discussion. See Tad’s report.

OTHER & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – Clifton briefly mentioned possible EV charging locations in downtown Lebanon. Meghan will schedule an EV subcommittee meeting. Jon mentioned that the Path to a Green Home app is moving forward with a possible local pilot.

REPORTS & NOTICES OF ENERGY RELATED CONFERENCES, WEBINARS & EVENTS – No discussion.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – Discussion on Building Codes update and City Procurement policy deferred to a future meeting, probably after the first of the year.

NEXT MEETING:

Scheduled for Thursday, November 19th at 4pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Greg to adjourn the meeting at 5:49 PM. The motion was seconded by Meghan. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Gregory Ames