

LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

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

December 17, 2020

4:00 PM

FINAL

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Everett Hammond

GUESTS PRESENT: Eva Loomis, Tim McCosker (UV Habitat for Humanity)

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Clifton Below at 4:07 PM. Clifton appointed Gene Homicki to fill the empty Lebanon High School student position.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: Greg presented a modified draft of the 11/19/2020 minutes, with additional detail missing from the LED streetlight conversion section and other minor corrections. Joan moved to accept the 11/19/2020 amended minutes as presented; Gene seconded. Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Habitat for Humanity: Lebanon High Performance Home Project: Eva contacted Clifton to discuss a Habitat project in Lebanon this Spring. The house will be built to VT high efficiency standards, R40 wall, R60 attic, heat pumps for heating and passive solar. Eva mentioned that even though mortgage payment will be slightly higher, it is expected that energy savings will offset this higher initial cost. Clifton suggested that this could be an example of what is possible in high efficiency home projects, and suggested that we could use Lebanon's social media, Lebanon Times, etc, to promote the energy efficiency of this project.

Municipal Aggregation Subcommittee recommendation on NHCDFA funding: The Committee discussed Jon's motion from the Municipal Aggregation Subcommittee's 12/3/2020 meeting (see MA Subcommittee 12/3/2020 minutes):

1. Jon moved that LEAC recommend to the City Council that Lebanon's CDFA grant funds be made available to CPCNH (or consultants working with CPCNH) to further the development of CPCNH and Lebanon Community Power's Business and Aggregation

plans, consistent with the original purpose of the grant. Woody seconded. Approved unanimously by roll call vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

Update on LED Streetlight Conversion Project: Close to moving ahead. Control nodes have arrived; streetlights should ship in the final week of December. Tad and Clifton have met with a Liberty representative to complete the reconciliation of Liberty-owned streetlights. Expected to come in under budget.

Update on Solar on City sites: The proposed airport solar project needs to be reviewed and presented to City Council before it can move forward. The solar panels that were removed from the Landfill Maintenance Building and the Police Station will be re-installed onto the T-hangers at the airport. Since the Landfill Maintenance Building and the Police Station are on the same substation circuit, this frees up headroom for the Landfill gas-to-energy project and minimizes needed substation upgrades for this project.

NH Legislative Issues: Sue Prentiss is sponsoring a bill to allow third-party owned behind-the-meter solar to be exempted from local property taxes. Additionally, a bill has been filed to enable direct producer to consumer energy sales, which will facilitate the Landfill gas-to-energy project and Lebanon Community Power.

Other updates: None

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EV Subcommittee Report: Greg and Clifton gave a summary of discussions with Rebecca Owens regarding potential site plan requirements that would facilitate EV charging in large multifamily complexes. Clifton discussed comments he filed in the PUC's EV charging proceedings to support time-of-use rates for EV charging for Commercial and Industrial entities.

Municipal Aggregation, Update on Other Community Power Aggregation issues & PUC Proceedings: Documents for forming Community Power of NH are almost finished and ready for filing. There has been discussion in the state legislature to introduce bills that would facilitate Community Power of NH.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Discussion on Building Codes update and City Procurement policy deferred to a future meeting, probably after the first of the year. Clifton suggested further discussions of 2021 Goals & Work Plan in January. He will forward documents for review prior to the January meeting.

NEXT MEETING:

Scheduled for Thursday, January 21st at 4pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Woody to adjourn the meeting at 5:43 PM. The motion was seconded by Jon. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Gregory Ames