



ELECTRIC VEHICLE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

(Subcommittee of the Lebanon Energy Advisory Committee)

City Hall Council Chambers

August 8th 2024, 3:00 PM

-- Final --

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sherry Boschert - Chair, Tom Benzel, Bill Stearns, Clifton Below.

MEMBERS ABSENT: none.

STAFF PRESENT: Tad Montgomery - Energy & Facilities Manager, Jim Wheatley - Fire Chief.

GUESTS PRESENT: none.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Ms. Boschert called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM.

2. **APPROVAL OF PAST MINUTES:**

Mr. Benzel moved to accept the July 2024 EV Subcommittee minutes; Mr. Stearns seconded. Approved unanimously.

3. **INVITED GUEST - Downtown Fire Station Redevelopment:**

Fire Chief Wheatley gave a description of the EV capable infrastructure that is planned for the new fire station. He also described the latest in electric fire engine technologies, and what is needed regarding EV capabilities for Staff vehicles and command vehicles. Electric ambulances could come soon as their average run times are only 45-75 minutes. There was discussion around coordinating utility upgrades for the Level 3 EV chargers (EVCS) at the fire station with the utility upgrades that will be needed if the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) grant comes through and a public Level 3 EVCS is installed at 2 Mascoma Street or in the Hanover Street Parking Lot. Mr. Montgomery mentioned that the fire station is at the end of a constrained electric distribution circuit, and as a result the utility infrastructure upgrades might be more than Liberty has so far stated. Mr. Wheatley also described the latest technologies for EV fire suppression, including blankets that are used to smother the fires and dunk tanks that entire burning vehicles are emersed in. He said that NY City

now responds to an average of five E-bike fires a day.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Lebanon Workplace EV Charging Policy** – Mr. Montgomery said that the City Manager has put the draft policy out for 30-day Staff review. Comments are due back by Sept. 3rd.
- B. **Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant (CFI)**: There has been no news on the CFI Round 1 re-application. A CFI Round 2 application will be submitted in collaboration with the NH Dept. of Environmental Services. Ms. Boschert, with Staff's support, has developed seven 'Worksheets' for the seven sites that were submitted in Round 1. Mr. Benzel and Staff submitted an eighth for public Level 2 EVCS in the Airport parking lot. Mr. Benzel described to the committee the location and infrastructure for this EVCS. A conversation with Liberty about this site is planned, and the Airport Director is enthusiastically in support of the project.
- C. **EV Infrastructure Plan for Lebanon TIF District** – Ms. Boschert gave an update of the TIF District EVCS in light of the CFI grant and the RFP for public EVCS described below.
- D. **Request for Proposals (RFP) for EV Charging Stations** – Ms. Boschert and Mr. Montgomery gave an overview of this RFP, which they hope to issue in August. There are a number of moving parts to this RFP, including whether one of the grants comes through, if not - who will finance the EVCS development, which sites will be included, whether the contractor can propose additional sites, etc.
- E. **Solar e-Bike Charging Stations** – Mr. Montgomery gave an overview of the project. Site visits with the FD and PD were productive with unknown constraints emerging, such as a setback distance of 10' for e-Bike chargers from building egress, and the prohibition against riding bicycles on the Mall. The next step is site visits with the City Electrician and City Engineer Brian Vincent. With all of their input received there will be a stakeholder meeting with the City Manager and the Library, Planning, and RAP Departments to finalize designs and get cost estimates.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **NH Council to Study the Impact of EVs, E-mobility Devices, and the Associated Lithium-Ion Batteries** -- Ms. Boschert described efforts to get someone with EV experience on this committee. Mr. Below mentioned that the NHMA lobbyist Natch Grese has agreed to fill the role but has no experience in the field. Ms. Boschert mentioned someone else who might be interested.
- B. **LebAnswers Video** – Ms. Boschert said that the informational video that she created has been uploaded to the City's EV page: "[What's happening with Electric Vehicles \(EVs\) and EV charging stations in Lebanon?](#)".
- C. **School Board Outreach For E-Buses** - Ms. Boschert and the committee discussed who on the School Board might be receptive to being approached again around trying to get electric school busses for the District.

6. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

There was no public discussion.

7. UPCOMING EVENTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- **Upper Valley EV Expo** – New London will host the 2024 Upper Valley EV Expo on the last weekend on September 29th, noon – 4 PM, at the New London Historic Village. Info: (802) 291-3939, WhyPumpGas@gmail.com, <http://UVEVExpo.org>.

8. NEXT MEETING:

The date of the next meeting is Thursday, September 12th, 3 PM, Council Chambers, City Hall.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Benzel moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:15 PM, seconded by Mr. Stearns. The motion passed unanimously without apprehension.

Respectfully submitted,

Tad Montgomery