

FINAL

LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LEAC)
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Remote Via Microsoft Teams
LebanonNH.gov/Live
September 18, 2025
3:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Henry Bromberg (Chair), Thomas Benzel, Clifton Below,
Sherry Boschert (joined remotely @ 3:37PM), Patrick Kenelly,
Woody Rothe, Bill Sterns

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jonathan Chaffee, James Mashal

STAFF PRESENT: Chris Kilmer, Asst. Director, Public Works

1. CALL TO ORDER – Chair Bromberg called the meeting to order at 3:34 PM

2. PREAMBLE – Read by Mr. Chris Kilmer

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A. August 21, 2025

Mr. Clifton Below MOVED to approve the August 21, 2025, minutes as presented.

Seconded by Mr. Woody Rothe.

** The vote on the MOTION was approved(5-0).*

Patrick Kenelly abstained.

Mr. Bromberg started the meeting by saying that he has an appointment with the new Lebanon City Manager, Mr. Andrew Hosmer, on Thursday, September 25, 2025 at 10:00AM, and all LEAC members are invited to attend.

4. OLD BUSINESS

A. Legislation 1 PUC Regulations 1 CPCNH / LCP updates; CPCNH Publicity Campaign

Mr. Below said that earlier this month Mr. Michael Vose, Chair of the House Science, Technology and Energy Committee convened a meeting for stakeholders, to discuss proposed legislation to enable progress towards a market for distributed energy resources in New Hampshire. Net metering has traction, so Mr. Below worked to revise this. Chair Vose is planning to submit this Bill to enable storage as part of net metering.

Specific to Lebanon, the Landfill Gas to Energy, can only produce Class 1 renewal energy credits if used for useful thermal energy and not for the production of electricity (per DOE). Representative Tom Corman and Senator Prentis are working on the verbiage for a Bill to clarify and therefore allow for New Hampshire Class 1 recs. This is already allowed in Rhode Island.

B. Landfill Gas to Energy Project

Mr. Chris Kilmer said that they are still operational. They are currently working through a hydrogen sulfide process – there is a tank fails periodically and subsequently shuts the plant down. He submitted a fuel usage report (for Rhode Island), and he will do this quarterly going forward. He and his team are working with Liberty Electric to try to calculate the production credit and exactly how it will work. He noted that it is drastically different than the solar.

Also, they are back on track to submit for direct pay; the intent is to have it submitted by November, for tax filing for the 2024 tax year. They are hopeful that by the Spring of 2026, the City of Lebanon will have that money back.

C. Lebanon Energy Saving Plan

Mr. Rothe said that he along with Jonathan Chaffee are working there way through communicating with local landlords to inform them about a free energy audit through Resilient Building Group. RBG has agreed to extend this to single family housing, and will also go to an individual's home, if a person is in need of help with the process.

D. EV Subcommittee Report

Ms. Boschert said that the recent EV event was successful, demonstrated by attendance as well as engaged attendees.

Regarding the RFP, the EV Subcommittee agreed to write a letter from LEAC to support completing an application for a Grant from T Mobile, to get a couple of charging stations. The other item is that the EV subcommittee wants LEAC to put in a formal proposal to Mr. Andrew Hosmer, the new City Manager, pursuant to his request to provide him with a document to bring him up to speed about LEAC' request for TIF funds to be used for EV charges.

***Mr. Sterns MOVED to have LEAC adopt the following for presentation to the City Manager:
Seconded by Mr. Benzel.***

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

LEAC requests that the City Manager designate up to \$250,000 from the Downtown Tax Incremental Financial District Funds for installation of 4 level II EV Charging stations that the City will own and operate in Downtown Lebanon, as described in the recent request for proposal.

LEAC recommends to the City Manager and the Department of Public Works that Lebanon work with Universal Electric as soon as possible, to install 4 Level II EV charging stations, that the City of Lebanon will own and operate in downtown Lebanon as described in the recent RFP.

Ms. Boschert had provided a letter to T-Mobile in today's meeting packet. It is for the grant application.

Ms. Boschert MOVED to have LEAC support this letter to T-Mobile for the Grant application. Seconded by Mr. Sterns.

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

E. Energy Efficiency Standards of the City's Staff Housing Initiative No updates

F. City Master Plan-Energy Chapter Update

Mr. Bromberg said that he will send the proposed Master Plan to LEAC members, to be discussed at the October LEAC meeting. Substantial work went into this document. After review and feedback by LEAC, it will go before City Council and others.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Kennelly shared updates about an aquifer with high yield, and plenty of water, near the Connecticut River, but it is in one of the lowest points in the City, and our entire water system is based on a storage tank that sits at about 850 feet, but the aquifer sits at about 380 feet. This would require water to be pumped uphill, indefinitely, and would use a lot of electricity. He said that while there are clean ways to get the electricity, he doesn't know the numbers, and his belief is that it would be very expensive and would be a big stressor for the system (e.g. 300 PSI), as well as impact consumer electricity rates. The project could cost around \$15 million. He will continue to keep LEAC updated.

Mr. Below elaborated on some additional unknowns. Neither gentlemen see this being included in next year's budget, but it is something important to keep an eye on with more to follow...

6. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC None

7. UPCOMING EVENTS

A. Upper Valley EV Expo – September 6, 2025, from 11:00AM to 4:00PM at the Hartford Town Hall, 171 Bridge Street, White River Junction, VT 05001

B. Composting Workshop: October 21, 2025, 6:00PM to 7:30PM at the Kilton Library, 9 E. Park St., West Lebanon, NH (put on by Sustainable Lebanon).

C. Housing and Land Conservation: September 11, 2025, 5:30PM, in the City Council Chambers, City Hall, 51 N. Park St., Lebanon, NH

D. Local Energy Solutions Conference: September 25, 2025, 9:00AM to 4:00PM, at the Double Tree by Hilton, Manchester Downtown, 700 Elm Street, Manchester, NH.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS None

9. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Benzel MOVED for adjournment. Seconded by Mr. Below.

**The vote on the MOTION was approved (6-0).*

The meeting was adjourned at 4:26 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Cinda Mersel
Recording Secretary