

FINAL

LEBANON ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, May 16, 2019
WEST MEETING ROOM – CITY HALL
4:00PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Clifton Below (Chair), Greg Ames, Meghan Butts, Johnathan Chaffee, Gene Homicki (Alt.), Woody Rothe, Keith Davio (Planning Board Rep),

MEMBERS ABSENT: Karen Hill (Alt. Council Rep.), Peter Beardsley (Alt.)

STAFF PRESENT: Tad Montgomery (Energy & Facilities Manager), Mark Goodwin (Planning & Development)

GUEST: GiGi Gallaway

1. CALL TO ORDER: Chair Below called the meeting to order at 4:02 PM.

2. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: • April 18, 2019

Keith Davio MOVED to approve the April 18, 2019 minutes as amended. Seconded by Meghan Butts.

Amendments: Heading: Remove 'West Meeting Room' and Add 'Council Chambers'. Page 1 Line 34 Remove 'utility' and Add 'facility'. Page 2 Line 21 Replace 'there' with 'their'. Page 2 Line 23 Add 'at work places' after 'chargers'. Page 2 Line 27 Add 'as part of' after City Hall and Remove 'is done'. Page 2 Line 28 Add 'the electricity used' after 'the' and Remove 'cost of utilization'. Page 2 Line 31 Add 'or lease and' before 'operate'. Page 3 Line 16 Remove 'Resilient' and Add 'Revision Energy'.

**The MOTION passed 6-0.*

3. BRIEF UPDATES

a. EV Subcommittee

At the last meeting the Subcommittee discussed the charger that will be installed by ReVision. Ms. Butts clarified that the charger would only be used for City vehicles. Mr. Montgomery is researching the ability to lock the charging station. The subcommittee is working on site criteria for public spaces to install public charging stations. They discussed the cost for the City to lease a vehicle and the cost benefit analysis for different types and models of electric vehicles. The big factor in the cost is the lease rate. There is support amongst City Staff to lease an electric vehicle, even if it is not a large cost savings.

The LEAC members discussed placing an electric vehicle charging station in the lower parking lot where up to 6 vehicles can be charged. The Electrify America Application will be completed by Mr. Montgomery, in hopes that Lebanon will be selected as a site for a charging station for the public use. They discussed the potential of revenue for the City, but it would be minimal. Electrify America will be setting up chargers on Interstates 89 and 93, but the locations are undisclosed at this time.

b. Solar – please see presentation included in the City Council agenda on 5/15/2019, Item.0.9.A-REVISION ENERGY-CITY-WIDE SOLAR PROJECT.

The City Council heard the presentation from ReVision and the City Manager was authorized to move forward. There will be 8 sites established. Mr. Montgomery is looking into the buyout cost of the system at year six, as a CIP project. Approximately 25% of the City's total electricity will come from the solar projects. The Council reviewed the financial benefits of buying out the system instead of continuing with the PPA. There is potential savings of \$1 million over the first twenty years of City ownership, after the initial 6-year PPA contract.

c. LED Streetlighting Conversion Project

This project is progressing along. There were two recent public meetings where the public met to discuss the removal of streetlights. There are 60 requests for reconsideration of the removal of streetlights. The requests will be reviewed and each streetlight that is still on the list to be removed will be looked at in person and checked again. Liberty Utilities filed a proposal for an LED street lighting tariff.

d. Legislation & PUC proceedings

Chair Below provided an update on current legislation. The impact of reduced State revenue due to no property taxes on municipal owned street lights and metering mechanisms was discussed. There is a bill to allow energy storage systems and to be exempt from property taxes. The members discussed the customer option to opt in or opt out of the municipal aggregation.

4. ENERGY & FACILITIES MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Montgomery continued the streetlight discussion. The crosswalk analysis and safe routes to schools are on the to do list. There is a quote for the payback on Storrs Hill going to LED with a dimming system. Andrew Hatch is trying to increase the incentives from Liberty Utilities in order to lower the bids for the work. There was a donation for lights at the skateboard park and the lights will be controlled by the City.

Mr. Montgomery is continuing to address the impact of insulating City Hall. The building will be analyzed for potential moisture damage due to insulating the building from the interior. This will protect the outside architectural appearance of City Hall. The back of the building, the area around the opera house, will be insulated from the outside. It would potentially have the look of brick.

Mr. Montgomery is reviewing the heating systems on several buildings. A dual fuel system is being planned for the heating system at City Hall. It would run on propane, oil or biofuel. There are still several buildings that are awaiting estimates. The Committee reviewed the alternatives to using gas or oil for heating. Pellet wood heating and the advantages to the carbon foot print of using wood to heat was discussed. There is some evidence that biomass is a healthy choice for the environment. Biodiesel was also reviewed as well as other renewable fuels. There was a supportive discussion about using heat pumps.

5. UNH SUSTAINABILITY FELLOW – summer project plans – Jon Chaffee

The UNH student who will be supervised by Mark Goodwin will focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions within the City. She will address the City's changes over the last few years, how the City will be doing a few years out, and a long-term plan and timeline to achieve the 2050 goals. The data will be useful for the policy commitments. Her work will evaluate the municipal government and will lay the ground work for evaluating the entire comprehensive inventory for the whole municipality.

6. BUILDING ENERGY EFFICIENCY & STRETCH BUILDING CODES

Continue discussion of Master Plan Chapter 13 (Energy) Outcome 1, and related strategies & actions:

Mr. Below reviewed the strategy for energy efficiency for City buildings and adopting an energy efficiency code.

- a. Please review RFP for Redevelopment of 20 Spencer St. as presented in the City Council agenda packet on May 15, 2019, Item.0.9.B-20 SPENCER STREET RFP

The RFP for the City property was reviewed. The City is enabling some discretion around City goals where redevelopment can reflect some of the City's energy efficiency goals. It was discussed to what extent would some energy efficient building codes could be voluntarily included by the developers and be considered in the scoring criteria of the RFP. The committee would like to see the City adopt a stretch code.

- b. Reference two enabling statutes: RSA 47:22 & RSA 155-A:2

The City Council has the authority to adopt new codes and ordinances. The result is to develop a more efficient building.

- c. City procurement policy update, note pp. 103-106 of this 6/17 Council packet:

The City is working on a new procurement policy, which includes purchasing energy, building materials, and professional services. These purchases could reflect the use of recycled goods, and materials with more energy efficient impacts. The members discussed how they could influence the City to make decisions that reflect the City's and LEAC's energy and climate goals. One of the considerations is how something can pay for itself over its lifetime, which is a financial and business decision that could be written into a draft policy.

7. REPORTS & NOTICES of energy related Conferences, Webinars, & Events: Note resources here:

Mr. Below showed the committee the Vital Communities site which has a number of resources for the community regarding energy efficiency events. The members discussed other resources and upcoming events.

8. OTHER AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

9. NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, June 20, 2019

10. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Davio MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 PM.

Mr. Ames seconded the MOTION.

**The MOTION passed unanimously (6-0).*

Respectfully Submitted,
Linda Billings
Recording Secretary