



CITY OF DOVER

ENERGY COMMISSION – MINUTES

Meeting Type: **Regular Meeting**
Meeting Location: **1st Floor Conference Room, City Hall – 288 Central Ave**
Meeting Date: **Wednesday, July 20, 2022**
Meeting Time: **5:30 PM**

1. Welcome

Chair Bill Baber opened the meeting at 5:25 pm.

Roll call: Bill Baber (Chair), Vincent Lyon, Susan Smith, Quincy Devine, Arcadia Lee, Walker King, Rebecca Ohler and Councilor Deborah Thibodeaux

Excused Absent: Mike Behrmann

Unexcused Absent:

Staff Present: Jackson Kaspari (Resilience Coordinator)

2. Assign Minutes Taker

Arcadia Lee volunteered to be the meeting minutes taker.

3. Citizens' Forum

Three citizens are present:

Morgan Adams, Member of Citizen's Climate Lobby, renter, finds the carbon dividend act should be considered by Dover. Looked at Portsmouth, Durham, and Keene. Would like us to investigate targeting carbon emitters and charging a carbon fee to make them accountable, giving dividends back to residents. Susan Richmond is the key mover and shaker for passing it in Durham. She can be a resource to us.

4. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2022

V. Lyon moved to approve. A. Lee seconded. Vote: U/A

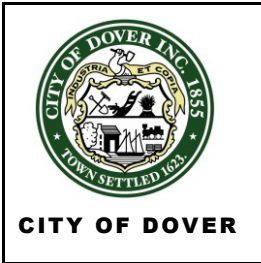
5. Old Business –

None was discussed.

6. New Business –

A. Update on EV event: Starting work to approve City Attorney to get sponsorship for EV event. B. Baber sent a letter to Eversource contacts to ask about a potential sponsorship, but no response yet. Jessica Wilcox at NHDES contacted "Build Your Dreams" a Chinese EV manufacturer to bring an all-electric bus (will be done with the Chamber). Baber looked into Plug-In America as an electric vehicle partner but timeline didn't line up and too many strings attached with sponsorship

B. Community Power update: Evaluated all the submissions and made a short list to interview a handful of vendors. Feeling more confident about the coalition model, deep discussion about how to make it work and have experience. Meeting tomorrow to deliberate on final recommendations to the Board re: partner selections, then it will go to vote. Potential contracts in the coming weeks or months. PUC extended the rulemaking process and voting on final rules. Deputy City Manager Parker was elected Vice President of the Board of Directors.



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Walther King dialed in at 5:42 pm.

Dover's Community Power Program is expected to launch in 2024.

C. Solar development: B. Baber spoke about the revenue expectations from 2-5MW net metered project on a plot of rural farmland. Dover owns property adjacent to the property with the super-fund site. Dover is exploring potential to build a large-scale solar project on the super-fund site, but still in the process of evaluating (with potentially up to 230 acres between City and County owned land, the project has utility-scale potential). Having preliminary conversations to explore feasibility with developers. Most of the land is not developed, just very likely to be expensive to develop and more information will be needed to assess the viability of the property. Reached out to three solar developers, all of which have worked on projects of this scale (maybe 80 MW). Potential hazards: located in a flood prone zone, but there might be some flexibility for conservation land swap. Would need a full-scale RFP, etc. to get the project off the ground.

7. Staff Updates

A. Water System Audit Progress: J. Kaspari is working with a local process engineer to conduct an energy audit of water treatment facilities, supported through NH Saves. He has been providing energy data for pump stations, etc. and developing a check system to catch any data entry errors.

B. Baber asked if he has seen any numbers on the pump station and noted that it's probably the largest point source of energy in the City. J. Kaspari displayed the available data.

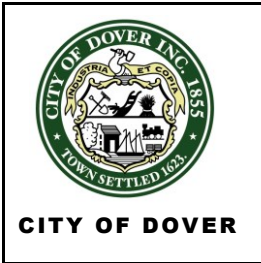
Q. Devine indicated that there are financing options for zero carbon emissions-based technology called "Bloom energy." It uses natural gas but claims to be carbon neutral. There's pipeline gas to the treatment center, so it could be a feasible option to increase efficiency. Baber asks if the technology has flexible demand response potential and Q. Devine indicated that it does.

B. EV Toolkit: State Senator Watters reached out to Jackson about a fellowship project working with Chris McClurg at UNH to develop an EV toolkit that will serve as a guide for municipalities to use for installing EV infrastructure and modernizing local regulations. J. Kaspari spoke with C. McClurg about vendors, RFPs, challenges, and opportunities.

C. Kausal Watch Software: Popular software technology that is being used in Europe to help municipalities track progress towards climate goals and can be linked to action plans. Designed to increase cross-collaboration amongst departments, can tie in emissions factors and will show how programs or specific activities will reduce carbon footprints.

W. King asked if the Sustainability Committee would be handling the cost-benefit evaluation and Baber informed the group that Council never approved the creation of a Sustainability Committee. Councilor Thibodeaux recommended that J. Kaspari present the Kausal Watch video to Councilors so they can see what it is and generate discussion/ideas.

J. Kaspari played a short introduction video of the product.



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Pricing is based on the size of the municipality; Dover is categorized as a small municipality according to Kausal terms. If it's found to be a cost-feasible option, implementation will probably come after the Citywide Resilience Plan.

The group agreed that this would be a useful tool to get buy-in for continued support on climate action.

Thibodeaux indicated that Council would be interested to learn more about the technology and Resilience Management Plan.

8. Other Business/Member Comments

A. Baber requested that A. Lee present on the Appalachian Mountain Club's Net Zero Strategic Plan – what was the process like in getting it off the ground, collecting stakeholder input, and sharing any progress it had been adopted.

B. There is a docket before the PUC to implement a pilot project by Eversource to install EV infrastructure – Eversource put forward a proposal which has been signed by all the intervening parties, but the PUC Chair expressed some concerns. R. Ohler informed the group about a previous fast-charger proposal that was submitted and rejected by Liberty utilities, so parties are doubling down to reach consensus. The PUC Chair expressed concerns about significant impact on ratepayers. However, Eversource's proposal is much narrower. The Liberty proposal was the same amount of money but serves less customers, so hoping Eversource will be approved. There are about 30 proposals in the candidate pool with DES right now. There are currently no publicly funded fast-chargers and none of them report data to the state. Final hearing is scheduled for Aug. 9 on having non-intervening parties submit comments to the docket.

B. Baber drafted a letter of support to the PUC Chair that the City Council will vote on next Wednesday.

V. Lyon asked if we're just looking to express general support or offer more specific expertise on the topic.

R. Ohler spoke about huge spikes in EV adoption rates throughout the world. Millennials and GenZers plan on having an electric vehicle for their next car purchase.

V. Lyon moved to approve the letter with discussed edits below. A. Lee seconded. No discussion. Vote: 4-0 (R. Ohler abstained due to her role at DES).

Edits: cite sources and more specific as to which age groups are moving to adopt EVs.

9. Call for Agenda Items

None

10. Adjourn: *Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote.*