

Concord Energy and Environment Advisory Committee

Wednesday, June 28, 2023

6:00 PM

City Council Chambers

MINUTES

Attendees: Chair, Rob Werner, Councilor Stacey Brown, Carl Cooley, Dot Currier, Gerald Eaton, Jennifer Galbraith, Chuck Willing, Jonathan Weinberg, Alec Bass (Senior Planner)

Absent: Councilor Byron Champlin, Nick Babladelis, Jessica Forrest, Jeffrey Evans, Grace Ciu (student representative), Frances Lesser (student representative)

I. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair opened the meeting at 6:00 PM. The Draft Minutes of the May 24, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Upon MOTION by Chuck Willing and seconded by Carl Cooley, the minutes of the Meeting on May 24, 2023 were APPROVED unanimously.

II. Municipal Projects

Community Power – Rob Werner reported that the Committee met for the first time in June. They agreed to designate a small group to review the various templates of community power that have previously been approved such as Canterbury that was part of the Community Power Coalition and the City of Keene that took an independent path to approved Community Power. Representatives from these communities' power committee may be invited to address the Committee. Based upon review of these plans, the sub group will present a draft plan to the entire Committee in September. The Committee must register with the NH PUC and notify the utilities that serve Concord. A plan will be submitted to the Council. An approved plan must be sent to the PUC to ensure that the statutory requirements have been met. The CEEAC discussed ways to inform the public and city councilors.

Solar RFP for the City Landfill - Five firm submitted proposals. Two finalists were selected, and negotiations began with the top finalists. A recommendation from City staff will be made by July 5. A winning bid may be announced by the Council's July 10th public meeting. Legislation is pending which may allow municipalities to participate in net metering projects located outside the municipal boundaries.

III. Concord Stocktake Review – A small group will meet with Concord Community Greenspace to explore other opportunities for public discussion following the Stocktake discussion session in May.

IV. Policy and Project uptakes

City of Concord Sustainability Position – Although the City Council did not approve a separate sustainability position, it decided to restructure the Community Development office with the creation of Director of Special Projects and Special Initiatives. It is likely the Beth Fenstermacher will assume this new position and will join this Committee as the Staff liaison.

Upon Motion by Gerald Eaton, Seconded by Jonathan Weisberg, it was unanimously VOTED to adjourn at 6:55 PM.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, July 26th at 6:00PM.