

Concord Energy and Environment Advisory Committee
Wednesday, September 27, 2023
6:00 PM
City Council Chambers
MINUTES - DRAFT

Attendees: Chair, Rob Werner, Councilor Byron Champlin, Councilor Stacey Brown, Nick Babladelis, Carl Cooley, Dot Currier, Gerald Eaton, Jeffrey Evans, Jennifer Galbraith, Chuck Willing, Allen Desbiens, Beth Fenstermacher (Director, Projects and Strategic Initiatives), Frances Lesser (student representative).

Absent: Jessica Forrest, Jonathan Weinberg, Grace Ciu (student representative),

I. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair opened the meeting at 6:04 PM. The chair recognized a new member of the Committee, Allen Desbiens. Allen explained that he was a retired specialist from Eversource (formerly PSNH). He worked in the regulatory area with extensive interaction at the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). Jerry Eaton and he worked closely for several years at PSNH.

The Draft Minutes of the August 23, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Upon MOTION by Councilor Champlin and seconded by Nick Babladelis, the minutes of the Meeting on August 23, 2023 were APPROVED unanimously.

II. Municipal Projects

Community Power – Chuck Willing reported on the progress that had been made on the draft Community Power plan. The draft plan holds open the choice between joining the state-wide coalition when going out to bid or engaging one or more brokers to solicit bids for just Concord's load and monthly usage. The subcommittee will present their draft plan to the CEEAC. A final draft plan, recommended by the CEEAC, will be submitted to the City Council for approval of a final plan. The electric utilities serving Concord will be notified. The plan, if approved by the City Council, will be submitted to the PUC for review of compliance with the enabling statutes.

There was a discussion concerning the upcoming two community meetings on October 3 and November 14 where the public can learn more about community power and ask questions about the draft plan. The October meeting will be on a high level while the November meeting will deal with more specific issues. There was a lengthy discussion on issues such as participation by large customers and control of the procurement

process. A plan approved by the City Council must be sent to the PUC to ensure that the statutory requirements have been met. Information concerning Community Power has been shared with all candidates for City Council and Mayor.

Solar RFP for the City Landfill – Beth Fenstermacher reported that the Final lease documents are still being negotiated with Kearsarge Solar.

III. Policy and Project updates

Rob Werner reported that plans are in the works for a 125-kilowatt solar installation at the City's waste water treatment facility on Hall Street.

Upon MOTION by Councilor Champlin, seconded by Councilor Brown, it was unanimously VOTED to adjourn at 7:45 PM.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 23rd at 6:00PM.