



City of Ann Arbor

Meeting Minutes

Energy Commission

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
[http://a2gov.legistar.com/
Calendar.aspx](http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx)

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

6:00 PM

Larcom City Hall, 301 E Huron St, Second
floor, City Council Chambers

****Changed to regular meeting. Originally scheduled as a work session. Location moved
from Council Workroom to Council Chambers**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Appleyard called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Mark Clevey, Shoshannah Lenski, Wayne Appleyard,
Noah Levin, John Mirsky, Sarah Paleg, and Chip Smith

Absent: 3 - Charles Hookham, Mike Shriberg, and Kenneth J.
Wadland

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Mirsky seconded by Lenski, that the agenda
be approved as presented. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the
motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[16-1745](#) Minutes of the November 8, 2016 Ann Arbor Energy Commission Meeting

Attachments: Energy Commission Minutes 11-8-16.pdf

A motion was made by Mirsky, seconded by Clevey, that the
Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City
Council and should be returned by 2/6/2017.

PUBLIC INPUT

Resident John Godfrey spoke to the Commission of concerns over
a ground-mount solar collector proposed for 2815 Brockman Blvd,
his neighboring parcel. Henry Vanderploeg also expressed concern

while speaking supportively of solar energy. A call was made for clearer solar zoning provisions in code.

ENERGY REPORT - NEWS FROM THE ENERGY OFFICE AND COMMISSIONERS

Staff shared information about a public presentation taking place the next day at the UM on environmental discourse in current politics and about the upcoming Sustainability Forums at the downtown library (first on 1/12/17). The upcoming launch event for a solar group buy on that same evening of the Forum was mentioned. A grant to USDN with the Huron River Watershed Council and Great Lakes Climate Adaptation Network, of which the City is a founding participant, was submitted for template vulnerability assessment models in Great Lakes communities, possibly in conjunction with hazard mitigation plans.

Energy Efficiency Project - UM Ford School Grad Student Group

Nadia Vandergriff, a graduate student researcher from the Ford School of Public Policy gave a presentation about the project she and two colleagues have worked on this semester examining the economic development impacts of energy efficiency spending in Ann Arbor. After reviewing the City's Climate Action Plan goals and how the City is not on track to meet them, the presentation covered how energy efficiency efforts not only have co-benefits but also serve as economic multipliers. The presentation concluded by recommending the creation of a new Energy Efficiency Office that would be co-staffed by DTE, U of M, and the City. (The presentation and discussion runs between the 22 minute mark in CTN's posted video of the meeting to the 45:30 minute mark.)

CEC Community Solar Model - Sean Reed

Clean Energy Coalition's Executive Director, Sean Reed, gave a presentation about their community solar models for nonprofits. The three models are: 1) Xseed (a nonprofit raising money to install solar; done at Michigan Theater); 2) PACE model (a nonprofit takes out a loan to pay for solar); and 3) the investor model (a nonprofit enters into a power purchase agreement with a third party who can take advantage of the federal tax credit for solar). (The presentation and discussion runs from the 46:00 mark in CTN's video of the meeting to the 1:13:30 mark.)

Solar Taxation Report & Resolution - Clevey

Commissioner Clevey gave a presentation about how Ann Arbor currently assesses taxes on solar installations within the city. He spoke about how not all jurisdictions within the state interpret the tax code the same; how many other jurisdictions in MI do not currently tax solar; and potential remedies for getting around assessing a solar tax in Ann Arbor. The presentation concluded with a resolution asking Council to create a Solar Tax Task Force to examine these issues that was ultimately withdrawn. (The presentation and discussion run from the 1:13:30 mark in CTN's video of the meeting to the 2:21:00 mark.)

[17-0031](#) Resolution Authorizing a Commitment to Review and Address Solar Taxation in Ann Arbor as part of an Effort to Make the City of Ann Arbor a Solar Ready Community

The resolution was withdrawn.

Summary of U of M Symposium "Combating Climate Change, The Role of Nuclear Energy - Mirsky

This presentation was tabled due to limited time remaining in the meeting.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Climate Action Plan

No update.

Renewable Energies

No update.

Sustainable Funding

Chair Appleyard and Councilmember Smith spoke about the proposal for new energy and climate funding concepts discussed as part of the Council's annual retreat.

PUBLIC INPUT

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Appleyard adjourned the meeting at 8:26pm.

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**City Clerk's Office
301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104**

Requests made with less than two business days' notice may not be able to be accommodated.

**Visit www.a2energy.org for community energy information in Ann Arbor,
or
www.a2gov.org/energy to learn more about the City's Energy Programs**

**Regular meetings shown Live and replayed on CTN Channel 16 and at
www.a2gov.org/ctn**