



City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
<http://a2gov.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

Meeting Minutes Energy Commission

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

6:00 PM City Hall, 301 E. Huron St. 2nd Floor Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present: 11 - Charles Hookham, Wayne Appleyard, John Hieftje, David A. Wright, Diane Kurz, Kenneth J. Wadland, Brigit Macomber, Mike Shriberg, Mark Clevey, Erik Eibert, and Shoshannah Lenski

Absent: 1 - Elizabeth Gibbons

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approved unanimously on a voice vote.

14-0580

Minutes of the February 11, 2014 Meeting of the Ann Arbor Energy Commission

Attachments: Energy Commission Minutes 2-11-14.pdf

Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council due back on 5/5/2014

PUBLIC INPUT

Changming Fan spoke describing his work on a product TiniLights and possible applicability to Ann Arbor goals.

ENERGY REPORT - NEWS FROM THE ENERGY OFFICE AND COMMISSIONERS

Geisler: Ribbon cutting event for XSeed Energy solar installation on April 22nd at the Michigan Theater; Earth Day at Leslie Science and Nature Center is Sunday, April 27th at Noon (thanks to Commissioners Kurz and Shriberg for volunteering); Ann Arbor SPARK next MI Energy Forum on a new Renewable Portfolio Standard, May 1st from 5-7 PM. Engineering Society of Detroit and DTE hosting Energy Conference and Exhibition 2014 on May 6 at Novi Suburban Collection Showplace; Working with DTE to convert 212 of their remaining lights within the DDA to LED and looking to the DDA for covering upfront expenses - would be a around a \$21,000 annual savings to the General Fund under current rates; final Sustainable Ann Arbor Forum at the downtown

library on Wednesday, April 9 from 7-8:30 PM (topic is Local Food).

Appleyard: Renewable energy share of global production last year rose to 8.5%.

Public Transportation Improvement Plan and Millage - Eli Cooper (staff/AAATA Board), Michael Benham (AAATA)

Eli Cooper: Offered a welcome and introduction to Michael Benham of TheRide. More and later bus service has been something AAATA has heard about for a number of years (2005 when first arriving in Ann Arbor). Several public meetings occurred to listen to public feedback and see how to advance public transportation in a sustainable and energy efficient way, which led to millage proposal now in place.

Michael Benham: 187 public meetings on improving AAATA service. Council passed a resolution in 2012 looking to expand focus in the urban core. Ridership is going strong, and AAATA has many other services other than fixed route buses. Recently, AAATA ridership ranked 4th highest in nation. TheRide holds high public opinion based on polling. The May 6th millage polls show 63% support. IN the next 3 years the County is expected to add 12,500 new jobs - transit should be one of the ways they get to work. (Benham showed map of proposed route improvements. At: www.therideyourway.org.) Would be earlier and later service both on week days and weekends, and increased frequency. Also there are new and re-designed routes proposed. The millage is not doing anything for rail. On February 20th, AAATA board decided millage was the one funding option available to make the kinds of improvements necessary. AN estimated benefit of \$96 million from the TheRide, even if you don't use it. Transit is essential for retaining talent - millennials especially.

Hookham asked about the challenge in getting surrounding jurisdiction participation in AAATA. Benham stated the county-wide effort to gain more cities and townships did have a lot of support, just fell apart when came to the dollars. Many still interested in the purchase of service approach to have some level of access and utilization - we think in time they may come around.

Wadland asked how much fares account for total budget. Benham stated 20% of operating budget is from fares. The purchase service communities pays 100%.

Hookham asked about how the hybrid buses work with respect to cost productivity as calculated. Benham stated these buses are significantly more expensive than conventional diesel options, so savings is still being determined. Some of the component parts present maintenance problems - so we are paying attention to life cycle costs of these vehicles.

Transportation Improvement Resolution

14-0611 Resolution Endorsing the May 6, 2014 Public Transportation Improvement Millage

Macomber read the resolution into the record.

Kurz offered edits that were accepted.

Macomber offered a friendly amendment for an additional clause (moved by Clevey, seconded by Kurz). Clevey, Shriberg, and Lenski made further edit suggestions that were incorporated.

Mayor Hieftje noted the importance of the millage if passed and cited the recognition and statistics Ann Arbor represents concerning ridership. Ann Arbor is an aging community, so there is a need to keep up services and attract younger talent. A hope is we don't need another parking deck following construction of the library lot - improving transit is essential if we are to not do so in the future.

Energy Benchmarking Update

Appleyard: Met last week, and contacted the person behind SEED (a template to pull data easier out of Portfolio Manager for benchmarking; a DOE tool).

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Appleyard: Idea of a reflective roof ordinance mentioned at the last sustainability forum. Something we can look into doing (NYC has one). Can legislate as a comfort issue, rather than just energy (notify the Chair if interested).

Acknowledgement of Commissioner Kurz's last meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT

Changming Fang, inverter of TiniLight again showed and described his system again. Traffic congestion one solution, by overcoming 4 color limitations of conventional (1920s) signaling.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Shriberg: Look through items at the Energy on the Road event with Alliance to Save Energy (per suggestion from Commissioner Lenski)

ADJOURNMENT - Relocate to Joint Meeting with Planning Commission

Chair's motion to adjourn moved by Hieftje and seconded by Lenski, at 7:05 PM.

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 relayed on CTN Channel 16 and at
www.a2gov.org/ctn