



City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
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Action Minutes

Energy Commission

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

6:00 PM

Electronic Meeting

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CALL TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

Land Acknowledgement

Staff Stults read the Land Acknowledgment statement

ROLL CALL

Present: 14 - Charles Hookham, Brigit Macomber, Mike Shriberg, Mark Clevey, Noah Levin, John Mirsky, Carlene Colvin-Garcia, Erica Briggs, Travis Radina, Jay Zocher, Teresa Hatcher, Ember McCoy, Robert Jeorg, and Larry Kerber
Absent: 1 - Julian Singleton

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Colvin-Garcia, seconded by Commissioner George, that the Agenda be Approved. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Hatcher, seconded by Commissioner Shriberg, that the all previous minutes be approved. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Resident Margarin Ziner called to support a feasibility study for municipalization

Resident Ofilia Wakeman called in support of municipalization

Resident Pam Haze called in support of municipalization

Resident Ina Brenay called in support municipal energy

Resident Greg Woodring called in support of municipal energy

Ken Garber called in support of municipalization especially as it pertained to DTE

Laurie White called in to support municipalization

Rida Mitchell called in support municipalization

Daniel Spokin called in support of municipalization

Commissioner Clevey addressed the likelihood of a municipal utility needing to have a portion of its energy portfolio come from fossil fuels.

ENERGY REPORT - NEWS FROM THE ENERGY OFFICE AND COMMISSIONERS

Staff Stults gave updates from the office that included progress on the Municipal Solar RFP. She also covered the a Federal ask for funding of projects including storage systems, transportation elements, and all electric firestation. She covered information on an upcoming heatpump workshop. She also gave an update on the planning at Bryant community in collaboration with RMI. Finally, she informed the commission about RMI and the joint meeting with planning

Commissioners discussed the costs of heat pump conversions and had questions on the solar installations.

Green Belt Presentation - Remy Long

Remi Long who works on the Greenbelt program for the conservation fund gave a presentation on the Greenbelt program. In his presentation he covered the history of the greenbelt, the green belt mileage, and the recent Greenbelt acquisitions. He went over the recent strategic plan update and the metrics they are tracking in collaboration with OSI. He finished by going over Greenbelt requirements that limit the ability to install solar.

Commissioners asked questions about the requirements that restrict solar especially as it pertained to impervious surfaces. There were question about biodigesters and further conversation about lands that are better for solar vs farming.

Building Code Update - Jan Culbertson & Chuck Hookham

Commissioner Hookham covered state and local building codes as they relate to building emissions. He also covered what could be done to support efficiency upgrades in the current legal climate.

Jan Culbertson the chair of the 2030 district did a presentation on the zero code. She focused on the renewables appendix, and how it related to the 2021 IECC requirements. In the second half of her presentation she went over the process of adopting the Energy Code and was to support implementation of the renewables appendix of the code.

Commissioners discussed supporting building policies. Staff Wass-Smith gave an update the current IECC process. There were questions about afford ability, the stretch code and the process with LARA.

Working Group Updates

Staff Stults gave a quick update on the City's VGP intervention. And Commissioner Colvin Garcia gave an update on the EV working group.

Report from Environmental Commission

Chair Mirsky gave an update on the Environmental Commission which included conversations around Solid Waste.

PUBLIC INPUT

Resident and previous chair Wayne Appleyard stressed the importance of recognizing the need to understand the relationship between solar and the grid especially as it pertained to production during the winter months where batteries have a hard time closing the gap.

Resident Guss Detchy called in support of municipilization.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

The Commissioners would have a presentation by RMI on electrification and a presentation on the Solar Faithful model.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chair called the meeting to a close at 8:20pm

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City Clerk's Office
301 E. Huron St.
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