

# **City of Ann Arbor**

*301 E. Huron St.*

*Ann Arbor, MI 48104*

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## **Meeting Minutes - Draft**

**Tuesday, July 12, 2022**

**6:00 PM**

**To speak at public comment call: 877 853 5247 or 888 788 0099**

**Enter Meeting ID 956 8718 7876**

**Energy Commission**

**CALL TO ORDER**

*The meeting was called to order at 6:06 PM*

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**ROLL CALL**

*All commissioners called in remotely from Ann Arbor, Michigan with the exception of Larry Kerber who called in from Lakeland, Washington.*

**Present:** 10 - Brigit Macomber, John Mirsky, Carlene Colvin-Garcia, Erica Briggs, Travis Radina, Larry Kerber, Jonathan Overpeck, Edith Juno, Cherish Smith, and Alex Zittleman

**Absent:** 4 - Noah Levin, Ember McCoy, Kendall Koenen, and Moksha Menghaney

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

*Commissioner Macomber motioned to approve the agenda.  
Councilmember Radina seconded the motion and the agenda was approved.*

**Approved**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

*Commissioner Macomber motioned to approve the minutes.  
Commissioner Juno seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.*

**Approved**

**22-1098** Energy Commission Meeting Minutes for June 14, 2022

**A motion was made by Macomber, seconded by Juno, that the Minutes be Approved by the commission. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.**

**PUBLIC INPUT**

*3 people called in for comment.*

**Presentation on Community Climate Action Millage**

[22-1223](#) 2022 Community Climate Action Millage

**Draft Resolution Recommending that the Ann Arbor Planning Commission and City Council Require All-Electric Appliances at the Village of Ann Arbor (1680 Dhu Varren Road)**

[22-1213](#) Energy Commission resolution recommending that the Ann Arbor Planning Commission and City Council require all-electric appliances at the Village of Ann Arbor (1680 Dhu Varren Road)

Body

WHEREAS, Fossil fuel combustion, procurement and transportation produce significant greenhouse gas emissions that raise global temperatures, which are already at harmful levels, leading to extreme weather events, droughts, massive flooding, and resultant death and displacement of thousands of people worldwide;

WHEREAS, building emissions account for an estimated 65% of the city's overall emissions (excluding scope 3 emissions), with emissions from the combustion of natural gas accounting for approximately half of residential building emissions;

WHEREAS, it is critical that new building construction be all-electric, in order to avoid locking in new greenhouse gas emissions for decades going forward;

WHEREAS, City Council on November 4, 2019 approved a resolution declaring a climate emergency and setting a goal of achieving a just transition to community-wide carbon neutrality by 2030 (R-19-498);

WHEREAS, City Council at its June 1, 2020 meeting adopted the Living A2ZERO Ann Arbor Carbon Neutrality Plan (R-20-193), incorporating the 2030 goal;

WHEREAS, Strategy 2 of the A2ZERO plan is "Switch our Appliances and Vehicles from Gasoline, Diesel, Propane, Coal, and Natural Gas to Electric";

WHEREAS, Strategy 2, Action 1 of the A2ZERO plan is "Promote Home & Business Electrification," and includes the following assumption: "All new residential and commercial buildings are designed and built to operate without the use of natural gas, reducing the increased cost associated with

retrofitting existing systems.”

WHEREAS, continuing to place natural gas infrastructure in new buildings virtually ensures that the city will fail to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030, because of the expense of retrofitting all-electric systems into building envelopes and internal HVAC systems designed to utilize natural gas;

WHEREAS, Robertson Brothers Co. is proposing to construct at least 484 dwelling units on approximately 65 acres at 1680 Dhu Varren Road (city project #SP21-024);

WHEREAS, the Ann Arbor Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on July 19, 2022, on the Village of Ann Arbor site plan and rezoning to R4A (multiple-family dwelling) zoning for City Council approval;

RESOLVED, that the Ann Arbor Energy Commission urges the Planning Commission and City Council to encourage all buildings in The Village be constructed with fully electric appliances for space and water heating, and for cooking; and

RESOLVED, that the appliances for space heating shall be electric heat pumps, utilizing ground or air sources of ambient heat, with an efficiency rating of SEER 18 or higher.

Final as Amended by the Energy Commission on July 12, 2022

**A motion was made by Commissioner Overpeck, seconded by Commissioner Macomber, that the Report or Communication be approved with changes. Councilmember Briggs motioned to amend the Resolution with the following text and Commissioner Radina seconded the motion. Text to read as follows:**

**“RESOLVED, That the Ann Arbor Energy Commission urges the Planning Commission and City Council to encourage all buildings in The Village be constructed with fully electric appliances for space and water heating, and for cooking.”**

**Amendment passed unanimously.**

**Commissioner Overpeck motioned to further amend the Resolution and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith. Text to read as follows:**

**“Resolved, That the Ann Arbor Energy Commission encourages all buildings in The Village, as well as all subsequent buildings in the**

**City of Ann Arbor, be fully electric.”**

**On a roll call vote the motion failed.**

**Yeas:** 3 - Macomber, Kerber, and Smith

**Nays:** 5 - Colvin-Garcia, Councilmember Briggs, Councilmember Radina, Overpeck, Juno, Zittleman and Mirsky

Absent: 4 - Levin, McCoy, Koenen, and Menghaney

**Below the final as Amended by the Energy Commission on July 12, 2022. Text to read as follows:**

**“RESOLVED, That the Ann Arbor Energy Commission urges the Planning Commission and City Council to encourage all buildings in The Village be constructed with fully electric appliances for space and water heating, and for cooking.”**

Discussion on OSI 2023 Activities and Opportunities

**Environmental Commission Liaison Election**

*Councilmember Briggs nominated Commissioner Mirsky to be the Environmental Commission liaison. Councilmember Radina, seconded the nomination. The nomination received unanimous approval and John Mirsky was approved as the Energy Commissioner to serve as liaison to the Environmental Commission.*

**OSI REPORTS - NEWS FROM ENERGY COMMISSIONERS**

**WORK GROUP UPDATES-REPORT FROM ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

**PUBLIC INPUT**

*One person called in for comment.*

**ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

**ADJOURNMENT**

*The July 12th, 2022 Energy Commission meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM.*

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City Clerk's Office  
301 E. Huron St.  
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