

City of Ann Arbor

301 E. Huron St.

Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

6:00 PM

***This meeting has been changed to a regular meeting after
originally scheduled as a Work Session**

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

Energy Commission

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present: 8 - Brigit Macomber, Shoshannah Lenski, Wayne Appleyard, Noah Levin, John Mirsky, Sarah Paleg, Carlene Colvin-Garcia, and Jack Eaton

Absent: 4 - Charles Hookham, Mike Shriberg, Mark Clevey, and Charlotte Jameson

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Paleg, seconded by Mirsky, that the agenda be Approved. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Energy Commission Minutes from Feb 13, 2018

Attachments: Energy Commission Minutes 2-13-18.pdf

A motion was made by Mirsky, seconded by Lenski, that the Minutes be Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council and should be returned by 5/7/2018. On a voice vote, the Chair declared the motion carried.

PUBLIC INPUT

Nancy Schiffler, chair of the Huron Valley Sierra Club, spoke in support of the DTE Natural Gas Power Plant resolution. Morgan Berry, representing City by City, also spoke in support of the resolution. Amber McCoy, SEAS staff member/alumna and member of Union of Concerned Scientists, also spoke in support of the resolution. Ginny Rogers, Citizens Climate Lobby member, also spoke in support of the resolution. Matt Hogen, Co-Chair of Huron Valley Democratic Socialists for America, also spoke in support of the resolution. Jay Zocher, Ann Arbor resident, spoke about the problems of using water to frack natural gas wells. Becky Stanfield from Vote Solar spoke about her organization's involvement with the DTE Natural Gas Power Plant case on the state level.

ENERGY REPORT - NEWS FROM STAFF AND COMMISSIONERS

Staff Nate Geisler shared information about upcoming events of interest to the Commission. Commissioner Mirksy spoke about the efforts at the University of Michigan to get the university to commit to a net zero carbon pledge.

DTE Natural Gas Plant Resolution

Resolution Concerning DTEs Proposed 1100MW Natural Gas Power Plant (Case U:18419)

Attachments: Draft Resolution concerning a new DTE natural gas fired power plant 3 8 .._.docx

Chair Appleyard opened the discussion by reading the proposed resolution. Commissioners discussed and debated on the issue, and changes were made to the resolution.

The following was submitted by Commissioner Hookham who could not attend the meeting or vote on the resolution: For the record, I do not support the draft DTE resolution on the basis that the resolution fails to address grid stability, capabilities of the proposed plant to displace many other inefficient generators, and others. I do agree that public record does not contain compelling support wherein alternatives (e.g., advancing more renewables in parallel) are highlighted.

The video for this segment runs between 22:25 and 58:38.

Approved by the Commission and forwarded to the City Council due back on 4/23/2018

Yeas: 7 - Macomber, Chair Appleyard, Levin, Mirsky, Paleg, Colvin-Garcia, and Liaison Eaton

Nays: 1 - Lenski

Absent: 4 - Hookham, Shriberg, Clevey, and Jameson

Energy Commission Bylaws Update - Christopher Frost

City Attorney staff Christopher Frost went over the process for amending the Commission's bylaws and presented draft bylaws for review by the Commission. Commission will dedicate the April working session to review the draft bylaws.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

Environmental Commission Update - Mirsky

Commissioner Mirsky reported that the Environmental Commission has been focused on solid waste issues as of late, including the solid waste fund balance, the financial implications of the closure of Ann Arbor's Materials Recovery Facility, and the city's stated waste stream diversion rate. He also reported that he was the Environmental Commission's representative to the RFP process to select a contractor to update the City's Solid Waste Master Plan.

Climate Action Plan Priorities and Target Setting - Hookham/Clevey

Staff Geisler reported that some draft content has been shared for the Climate Action Plan Priorities and Target Setting Subcommittee.

Solar Schools - Colvin-Garcia

Commissioner Colvin-Garcia reported that the A2 STEAM and Pioneer High Schools are still working on their applications for the My Solar School contest.

Commissioner Mirsky also reported that there is a Community Solar Subcommittee which is looking at solar on schools and on houses of worship (Solar Faithful project), among other community solar options and plans to release a report giving residents information about different community solar options they might choose. The Subcommittee has not met since December but will likely meet again soon.

Ordinances - Paleg

No update.

PUBLIC INPUT

Jay Zocher asked whether any of the proposals charge by the pound for landfill. Commissioner Mirsky gave an answer about the pros and cons of pay as you throw policies.

Chris Karounos, a National Science Foundation Fellow at UM, spoke about some of the flaws in DTE's Natural Gas Plant proposal and their possible conflicts of interest as a company. He urged the Commission to reach out to the MPSC with their concerns. He thanked the Commission for its work on the Climate Action Plan.

ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Bylaws discussion

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Appleyard adjourned the meeting at 7:30pm.

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

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