



# City of Ann Arbor

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

## Action Minutes

### Energy Commission

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Tuesday, December 11, 2018

6:00 PM

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

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#### Work Session

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Appleyard called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM

#### ROLL CALL

**Present:** 11 - Charles Hookham, Brigit Macomber, Mike Shriberg, Mark Clevey, Shoshannah Lenski, Wayne Appleyard, Noah Levin, John Mirsky, Carlene Colvin-Garcia, Jack Eaton, and Jeff Hayner  
**Absent:** 1 - Charlotte Jameson

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

#### PUBLIC INPUT

No public input

#### ENERGY REPORT - NEWS FROM THE ENERGY OFFICE AND COMMISSIONERS

Staff Josh MacDonald informed the commission of two University of Michigan

master student projects focusing on internal carbon fees. Staff MacDonald informed the commission on the current status of the Net Zero Affordable Housing project, which will combine on-site solar production and efficiency improvements. Staff MacDonald informed the commission of plans to purchase 2 electrical vehicle chargers at City Hall and 1 at the Water Treatment plant.

Commissioners Colvin-Garcia and Clevey and Councilmember Eaton discussed the December 7th Community Climate Conversation that focused on the impact of environmental refugees in the community.

Chair Appleyard discussed the Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association 2018 Annual Meeting, which covered the firehouse solar installation, the state of the DTE tariff, and recognized Oak Electric and Michigan Solar Solution.

Commissioner Colvin-Garcia announced she had received the “Sustaining Ann Arbor Together Grant” for the STEAM solar-powered curriculum for grades K-8.

### Commission and Subcommittee Structure

Staff MacDonald informed the commission that subcommittees are an opportunity for the commission to break out into groups, leverage expertise, and interface with City staff to move forward sustainability goals. Commissioner Mirsky suggested breaking up the work amongst members at meetings to ensure progress.

Staff MacDonald informed the commission that the 100% Clean Municipal Operations, created out of a Council resolution, will be looking at energy efficiency in buildings, and renewables throughout municipal buildings. Councilmember Eaton added that improving performance while lowering maintenance makes economic sense. Commissioner Clevey discussed forming a micro grid around dams. Staff MacDonald explained that behind the meter power generation for facilities have a number of hurdles but should be pursued.

Commissioner Mirsky informed the commission that the Lighting Ordinance was working on drafting an ordinance. Currently they were looking for stakeholders.

Staff MacDonald informed the commission that the Energy Audit Disclosure at Time of Marketing subcommittee aims to be community-facing, using market forces to incorporate time of marketing into rentals. Commissioners discussed training inspectors to do energy assessments, the need for disclosure, and the impact to housing affordability.

Staff MacDonald informed the commission that the EV Readiness Ordinance aims to make sure that new houses and parking lots are equipped with conduit, and may be able to make recommendations on the Volkswagen settlement. Chair Appleyard informed the commission that the ordinance would be implemented through zoning, like parking requirements, and that a similar effort in East Lansing is serving as a guideline.

Chair Appleyard discussed various challenges with scheduling, organizing, and formatting Power Hour events, to which Commissioner Clevey suggested a

monthly meeting. Commissioner Mirsky suggested spreading out four meetings over one or two months and evaluating what target groups were reached, to which Commissioner Clevey suggested addressing target markets separately. Staff MacDonald suggesting coordinating with Energy Office staff to organize meetings.

Commissioner Mirsky suggested that individuals specifically sign up for subcommittees. The following commissioners signed up for the following sub-committees:

**EV Readiness Ordinance:**

- Chair Appleyard
- Commissioner Colvin-Garcia
- Commissioner Mirsky
- Commissioner Zocher

**100% Clean Municipal Operations:**

- Chair Appleyard
- Commissioner Mirsky
- Commissioner Hookham
- Commissioner Clevey
- Council Member Eaton

**Energy Audit Disclosure at Time of Marketing**

- Chair Appleyard
- Commissioner Mirsky
- Commissioner Macomber
- Commissioner Shriberg

**Community Outreach**

- Chair Appleyard
- Commissioner Mirsky
- Commissioner Levin

**Lighting Ordinance**

- Commissioner Mirsky

## **Revolving Energy Fund**

Staff MacDonald informed the commission about the Revolving Energy Fund. The funds are dedicated to efficiency upgrades on City buildings, the savings are re-invested into the Revolving Energy Fund by applying different interest rates. Those funds can then go on to pay for future energy efficiency upgrades. Commissioners discussed ways to build out the funds, mechanisms for recovering funds, and ways to inform others of the funds within the City.

## **Solar Access Draft Resolution - Hookham**

Commissioner Hookham presented a Solar Access Draft Resolution to the commission. Commissioner Hookham informed the commission that neither the State, County, nor City provides legal documentation on the issue of solar access. Commissioners proceeded to discuss solar access as it pertained to

different zoning levels, density, and mechanisms for compensation. Commissioner Hookham informed the commission that he will accept comments and continue drafting the resolution.

## **Sustainability Listening Tour**

Commissioner Clevey informed the commission of the proposed tour, which will ask residents for input on what the City is facing regarding climate and energy topics, and how they relate at the neighborhood level. Councilmember Eaton suggested coordinating with respective council members for the tour. Commissioner Clevey informed the commission that next steps include requesting technical help from the Office of Sustainability and Innovations.

## **Emergency Response Resolution**

Commissioner Clevey introduced an Emergency Response Draft Resolution to the commission. Commissioner Lenski discussed that the resolution addresses both climate change mitigation and response, challenges of grid-connected operations being inoperable during grid emergencies, and other tactics of optimizing solar returns and implementing emergency back-up, including purchasing solar from non-municipal buildings. Commissioner Clevey discussed the potential for battery back-up to enable EV charging during a grid emergency. Commissioner Hookham discussed challenges of micro-grids operating during grid outages and the importance of considering all other options. Commissioner Lenski suggested that as the City considers when and if to install solar on City buildings, the value of increased resiliency should be factored in. Commissioner Hookham suggested that the resolution should allow for multiple factors and situations to be considered. Commissioner Clevey suggested adding Emergency Preparedness as a factor to be considered when prioritizing solar installation. Commissioner Hookham suggested that the subcommittee provide input.

## **COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Due to time constraints, the commission decided to address committee updates at the next meeting.

### **100% Clean Municipal Operations**

### **Lighting Ordinance**

Energy Audit Discloser Ordinance

EV Readiness Ordinance

Outreach to Schools

Community Outreach (Solar & EE)

Report from Environmental Commission

## **PUBLIC INPUT**

No public input.

## **ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA**

- Emergency Response Draft Resolution
- Energy Commission Bylaws
- Solar Faithful Update
- Commissioner Mirsky: Tubingen, Germany Energy and Climate Action presentation

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The chair adjourned the meeting at 8:28 pm.

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301 E. Huron St.  
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Visit [www.a2energy.org](http://www.a2energy.org) for community energy information in Ann Arbor,  
or  
[www.a2gov.org/energy](http://www.a2gov.org/energy) to learn more about the City's Energy Programs

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