



TOWN OF DURHAM
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NOTICE: THIS MEETING IS A **HYBRID MEETING**. IT WILL BE CONDUCTED PARTLY IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS WITH SOME MEMBERS WHO MAY BE PHYSICALLY PRESENT AND PART REMOTELY WITH OTHER MEMBERS PARTICIPATING LIVE VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE. PLEASE SEE SECTION ON PUBLIC INPUT AND ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS AT THE END OF THIS AGENDA. AT THIS TIME, DUE TO THE CURRENT COVID-19 PANDEMIC, WE ENCOURAGE THE PUBLIC TO PARTICIPATE VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE

DURHAM ENERGY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, September 8, 2020
7:00 – 8:30 PM

— MEETING MINUTES—

1. Call meeting to order

Present: Chair Nat Balch (remotely)
Mary Downes(remotely)
Barbara Dill(remotely)
Martin Wosnik(remotely)
Coleen Fuerst(remotely)
Jim Dreher(remotely)
Jack Lannamann(remotely)
Bianca Leonard(remotely)
Wayne Burton(remotely)

Absent: None

Guest(s): Minute Taker: Mary Downes
Chairing: Nat Balch

Nat Balch read the remote meeting disclaimers; he read Zoom call-in and public input/participation instructions for the viewing audience, as this meeting was held completely online using Zoom.

A roll call was taken:

Nat Balch **Yes**
Mary Downes **Yes**
Barbara Dill **Yes**
Martin Wosnik **Yes**
Coleen Fuerst **Yes**
Jim Dreher **Yes**
Jack Lannamann **Yes**
Bianca Leonard **Yes**
Wayne Burton **Yes**

2. Minutes (review in advance on [DEC website](#))

A vote will not be taken until Committee members have had a chance to review on the website.

3. Report on Progress since prior meeting

a. Energy Goal Setting For Durham

There were three presentations at the August meeting; as a result, energy goal setting was not discussed.

Recommendations in Mary Potts' report:

- Adopt goals for the Town.
- Join the Global Covenant of Mayors ("GCM").
- Model non-municipal energy uses (residential and commercial).

Next steps:

- a) decide whether to join the GCM after doing due-diligence, and
- b) determine the appropriate goals.

Mary Potts has officially wrapped up her term as Sustainability Fellow for the town. The new Sustainability Fellow is Emily Mello, a UNH graduate student who will start this fall. Mary Downes will act as a liaison to the DEC for the fellowship.

Nat suggested an informal mid-month discussion to develop a Climate Action Plan recommended by the Global Conference of Mayors. Include strategies checklist from the GCM. Bianca, Barbara and Mary will work on this, and will report back to the DEC.

Jack suggested developing a list of action items from this meeting for the DEC to implement. The list will be included in these meeting minutes. Action item lists will also be included in subsequent meeting agendas.

b. ORMS Construction Update

Nat provided an update on the construction, as follows:

- 70 geothermal wells have been drilled and tubing loops installed.
- A subsurface valve and manifold chamber has been constructed.
- Steel construction is currently in the early stages. Nat will ask for cost-benefit analyses of renewable energy components of the building.

c. Micro-Grid Update

Jim is assembling and organizing documents on microgrids and discussed a Request for Information on Connected Communities UNH is applying for. The incoming Sustainability Coordinator might assist on this.

d. Added to the Agenda: “Discuss and Recommend Action on PPA1 Buy-Out from Revision Energy”

The committee members discussed PPA1, Present Net Worth and cost/payback implications relative to the buyout. Martin used an economic present net worth/depreciation computer model to assist in the discussion.

Nat read a motion written by Mary Downes and seconded by Colleen: *“We recommend that the Town include in the upcoming fiscal year Town budget sufficient funds to buy out from ReVision Energy the remaining term of the power purchase agreement on the solar arrays on the Town Library, Ice Rink, and Police Station, the buyout would include establishing operation and maintenance and decommissioning costs.”*

A Roll Call on Motion was taken. The vote on the motion was unanimously in favor with a roll call vote as follows:

Nat Balch **Yes**
Mary Downes **Yes**
Barbara Dill **Yes**
Martin Wosnik **Yes**
Coleen Fuerst **Yes**
Jim Dreher **Yes**
Jack Lannamann **Yes**
Bianca Leonard **Yes**
Wayne Burton **Yes**

After the vote, Martin voiced additional questions to be addressed with regard to Town Council consideration. Nat will pass the recommendation to Todd and Jen ASAP for the 9/7 Council meeting.

e. Solar Ordinance Update

Barbara talked to Jim Lawson, who would like to come to the next DEC meeting to discuss the solar ordinance. This will be included in the next agenda.

Mary suggested including a provision for decommissioning arrays in the ordinance; according to Barbara, this is currently in the draft Ordinance.

f. EV Charging Stations

Jack discussed the following topics:

- Estimates of EV growth have increased over time, given the downward trend in the cost of batteries.
- A question of where EV stations should be located. The workplace is the most logical place, given the length of time spent at work.
- It would make sense for UNH to install more charging stations. The Middle School is also a good opportunity.
- Jack described the following:
 - There are three basic charging station types: Level 1, Level 2 and DC fast charging stations.
 - The cost of installation/operation consists of costs of conduit runs and which network is used. The cost ranges anywhere from \$800 to tens of thousands of dollars.
- EV use is evolving and will be reviewed regularly.
- Recommendations:
 1. Provide Level 1 or 2 chargers at the new Middle School.
 2. Consider electric school buses
 3. Select preferred charging station for standardization
 4. Include provisions for EV charging residential and business buildings as part of Town planning.

Further discussion of the following agenda items was postponed until the next meeting.

- Municipal Aggregation
- New Energy Committee business
- Updates from Other Committees

4. Action Items

The following items were resolved as “**Action Items**”, to be followed up on by committee members and placed on the next Durham Energy Committee agenda:

- Post Mary Potts’ final report on the DEC website- Mary Downes
- Kick off an informal discussion on a Climate Action Plan, as described on the website of the Global Covenant of Mayors, in their “Resources” tab. This can be found here:
<https://www.globalcovenantofmayors.org/our-initiatives/data4cities/resources/>
Bianca, Barbara and Mary have volunteered to start meeting on this topic.
- Arrange for ORMS cost-benefit analyses - Nat
- Arrange for Jim Lawson to discuss the solar ordinance at October 6, 2020 agenda.

5. Next meeting date(s)

October 6 is the next DEC meeting date.

6. Adjournment

Nat Balch moved to adjourn the meeting. Mary seconded. The roll call vote was as follows:

Nat Balch **Yes**
Mary Downes **Yes**
Barbara Dill **Yes**
Martin Wosnik **Yes**
Coleen Fuerst **Yes**
Jim Dreher **Yes**
Jack Lannamann **Yes**
Bianca Leonard **Yes**
Wayne Burton **Yes**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15 PM.