

Barre City Energy Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 25, 2018

Committee Members Present: Elaine Wang, Conor Teal (via telephone), Phil Cecchini

Committee Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Janet Shatney, Planning Director

Visitors: Romni Palmer

1. Call to order - 5:35 pm by Chair Wang
2. Changes to agenda?
 - C. Teal wanted to discuss the ACCD grant opportunity for perhaps another EV station in the City.
 - Discussion about where the current EV stations are, who owns them, etc. They are as follows:
 - ✓ Merchant's Row: 1 double-headed station owned by the City
 - ✓ Pearl Street Parking Lot: 1 double-headed station owned by the City
 - ✓ Zanleoni Place (Resource Parking Lot): 2 different stations, both privately owned
 - ✓ N. Main Street (Efficiency VT/Domino's lot): privately owned station

Per the City Clerk: The costs for the stations far outrun the revenues, at least to date. There's an annual license for ChargePoint, which is the billing app. That license runs \$1,120/year for all 4 plug-ins. Then there's the cost of electricity. The stations pull power continuously – even when not charging a vehicle – because they are electronic. To date this year, we've spent \$599.26 on electricity, and we've collected \$230.95 in fees. So the City is underwriting the stations by about \$1,488. If we didn't license with ChargePoint, the stations would be free to use, which would actually be cheaper for us. We've discussed letting the stations be free, but putting meters in and requiring people who are using the stations to pay for meters. The advantages of having ChargePoint is people can find the stations by using the app, and they can use their credit cards.

3. Approve minutes of meeting for April 25 and May 23, 2018.
 - Correction: not May 23, minutes, but the Special meeting's June 6 minutes.
 - Motion to approve as presented made by P. Cecchini and seconded by E. Wang, passed unanimously.
4. Introduce guests, if any.
 - Romni Palmer came as a visitor, very interested in the BCEC. Her background was shared, and other members of the committee also shared theirs. Committee members outlined BCEC's mission of energy efficiency and conservation, how they try to educate the residents, and do work to help the City buildings.
5. Review budget.

- J. Shatney let the committee know that after paying the Thunder Road Energy fee of \$100, we will have \$3.43 left in the budget. P. Cecchini has 2 invoices still to be paid for the banner, which will put us over by -\$91.57. We start again after July 1 with a budget of \$1,000.
- J. Shatney also showed the monies in the Energy Committee Fund to be \$9,502.59 for use with hiring consultants for the energy plan RFP. Funds provided by Novus Energy as a stipend to the City, as well as the transfer of funds from Capstone.

✓ ACTION: can Efficiency VT help with an itemization of the work performed at Alumni Hall?

6. Update on City Hall audit.

- Per report from City Manager, he and Buildings Director Jeff Bergeron met with Chris Temple of DeWolfe Engineers and Craig Simmons of Commons Energy L3C during the week of June 18th with Opera House reps, Dan Casey and Patti Merriam, principally to coordinate our parallel initiatives, but it was a good opportunity to get an update on the audit. Jeff has supplied Craig with the energy utilization data he needed. Craig advised he needed 2 more weeks to June 30+/- to finish his report.
- The City has paid \$9,000+/- for the structural analysis work to date out of General Fund operations rather than running it through the audit contract.
- The Manager advised Chris I didn't see a "conceptual" cost estimate in his structural analysis update report, that he still has money in his contract to complete this, and hopes to have by end of next week. We should have more substance to report at the July mtg.

7. Discuss Energy Plan community engagement RFP.

- We are waiting for the Manager to finish his RFP template for the City, then this will be able to be put out. J. Shatney said she is also working on an RFP and has the green light with the Manager to complete an RFP prior to this template, and will see if she can get this energy RFP done in the same fashion so that we aren't waiting.

8. Consider purchases for BCEC tabling.

- P. Cecchini has purchased the 4x6 banner that can be used at all ongoing events. Will be put up on the table at the Energy Efficiency night at Thunder Road July 5.
- E. Wang has purchased 4 solar powered flashlights, 2 solar chargers and a box of solar powered cricket toys for \$+/- \$76.87, for the event. Will use the roulette wheel again and try and incentivize people to want to complete energy strategies.
- Motion was made by P. Cecchini and seconded by C. Teal to reimburse E. Wang an amount not to exceed \$130 for what has been purchased and any further for the Thunder Road Event, motion passed unanimously.
- Discussion ensued regarding children's themed toys, like stickers; UV exposure stickers, solar changing stickers, etc. E. Wang wants to have something that will advance education in energy. Motion made by C. Teal and seconded by P. Cecchini for reimbursement of stickers an amount not to exceed \$30, motion passed unanimously.
- C. Teal will table from 4 pm to 6 pm on July 5, and E. Wang will come for 6 pm to 8:30 pm.

- ✓ ACTION: E. Wang to get in touch with Organizer on minutes of that meeting for admission tickets and how many BCEC was granted, so that she and C. Teal can get in, and also for the raffling on social media (Front Porch Forum and Facebook).
- ✓ ACTION: P. Cecchini to assist with social media raffling of admission tickets for the evening of July 5.

9. Discuss plan for Heritage Festival.

- Festival is July 28th. E. Wang stated that doing this year (roulette wheel, etc.) worked and would be happy to do this again this year. We will finalize arrangements at the next meeting.
- Motion made by C. Teal and seconded by P. Cecchini to register the BCEC for a 10'x10' booth at the Festival for \$50 fee, motion carried unanimously.
- ✓ ACTION: Get the BCEC registered and paid. P. Cecchini emailing the Festival Director on how and when to get registered.

10. Update on purchasers for BCEC activities.

- E. Wang stated that she was in receipt of an email by the City Manager that he isn't willing to extend this ability to the BCEC, or any committee member to be able to purchase items at local stores under the purview of the City. We will continue to be able to purchase and get reimbursed, or have a list for J. Shatney and she will be able to purchase on our behalf.

11. Further questions or input:

- It was asked what the former Clark's building parcel was being used for. J. Shatney stated that with the brownfields monies, the owners' requirement for their CAP (Corrective Action Plan) with the VT Agency of Natural Resources is that the paved surface parking lot will suffice as a barrier for any remaining contamination to remediate.
- ✓ ACTION: P. Cecchini to query the owner, Mark Nicholson regarding the ability to place a solar EV station on his property.

12. Motion to adjourn at 7:13 pm by P. Cecchini and Seconded by C. Teal, passed unanimously.