

Hillsboro Energy Commission Minutes
October 14th, 2021; **Bolded items are things to-do**

Meeting opened at 6:07 PM.

Attendance: Brett Cherrington, Chairman; Vice Chairman - Adam Charrette; Jon Daley; Sue Durling; George Arvanetaki

Secretary's report:

Minutes of 09/23/2021: Motion to accept by Adam Charrette. Seconded by Sue Durling. Passed unanimously. George Arvanetaki abstaining.

Drive Electric Week

National Drive Electric Week: Brett attended three virtual meetings.

First meeting: panel of electric car owners. Police Chief Roarick also attended. Interesting to hear how different people have different needs and how they fit them into their lifestyles.

Second meeting: about charging stations. With regenerative braking, you actually can plan to not fill the battery completely, but depend on the braking to charge it as you go along, depending on terrain, which affects how owners plan routes for long trips, etc. In addition to what we've been told about putting in some conduit during new construction to plan for future installations of chargers, one guy stressed a point that we will need more parking spaces in the future, so planning for small conduit that would meet today's needs won't be good enough for future expansions as more and more electric vehicles are on the road. Also, need to plan for accessible charging spots as well.

Third meeting: Fleet vehicles: corporate and municipal vehicles. Small vs Large buses – in Hillsboro, we use large buses for every route, and they often only have a few kids on them. What sort of incentives does the bus company have to use smaller buses instead? Tractor trailers exist with a current range of 500 miles, they are working on increasing the range.

EV Charging Station / Ordinance / Site Plan Regulation

Adam worked through the example documents from last meeting and highlighted relevant sections, and crossing out portions that don't make sense for Hillsboro. Brett met with Robyn Payson and gave her the documents that we know about. They will meet again once she has some time to process through that information. We have some questions about fleet charging – are there issues with the size of the wire/available power coming in from the street, is a separate substation needed, are there smart controls that can delay charging one of vehicle until the first one is completed in order to lower simultaneous power usage?

Brett checked into the land at the intersection of Route 202 and West Main St and the state owns 62' of frontage on West Main St, and then down Route 202 almost all the way to the next piece of the river, which includes the bridge, the small parking lot on the other side of the bridge, and apparently, the Hillsboro Ford entrance.

Some chargers have batteries for the advantage of buying power at cheap times, and then releasing it at the more expensive times. It also would be good for having more power available simultaneously, which can answer the concerns about fleet charging previously mentioned.

Police EV proposal

Still in progress. Once the federal infrastructure bill gets nailed down, we'll be able to make better decisions.

Street Lights

Request for proposal was published and are due on November 5th, with the Selectmen opening them on the 10th. They are hoping to have a contract signed by December 15th to encumber the funds,

allow time for the Energy Commission have time to review the bids and then have the project start in the Spring.

Brett and Adam did some research into solar powered lights and came to the same conclusion that they are good for off-grid, but less useful for on-grid applications.

Portfolio Manager

Sue has started checking on the software regularly, and so getting more used how it works, and getting more useful information out of it. She has another meeting with Rich scheduled for next week, and so is hoping that she is “almost there” and will be ready to go soon.

Next meeting will be on October 28th at 6:00PM.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM, motion to adjourn by Adam, seconded by Sue, passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Jon Daley