



CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

Meeting Minutes - Final Sustainability Commission

Officers: Chair Katie Riley, Vice Chair Aurora Taylor, Secretary Erik de Jong

Members: Elizabeth Bagley, Lilli Garza, Gerry Hope

Staff Liaison: Bri Gabel, Sustainability Coordinator

Assembly Liaison: Kevin Mosher

Monday, June 3, 2024

6:00 PM

Harrigan Centennial Hall

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Acting Chair Taylor called the meeting to order at approximately 6:01 P.M.

Present: Aurora Taylor (Acting Chair), Lilli Garza, Gerry Hope, Erik de Jong, Katie Riley (telephonic)
Kevin Mosher (Assembly Liaison)

Absent: Elizabeth Bagley (excused)

Staff: Bri Gabel (Sustainability Coordinator)

Public: Kent Barkhau, Jessica Perkins (Senior Director of Organizational Development, Sitka Tribe of Alaska) Sitka Community Renewable Energy Strategy Technical Team: Molly Gear, Amy Solana

II. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA

No changes.

III. CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

Approve the May 6, 2024 minutes.

Hope moved to approve the May 6, 2024 minutes.

Motion PASSED by 5-0 roll call vote.

IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD *(not to exceed 3 minutes on topics off the agenda)*

Kent Barkhau had concerns about the staffing of the Electric Department requested the Sustainability Commission investigate further.

V. SPECIAL REPORTS

None.

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Sitka Tribe of Alaska Grid Resiliency Formula Grant Public Hearing

Jessica Perkins summarized the Grid Resilience State and Tribal Formula Grant available to the Sitka Tribe of Alaska (STA) for \$149,979.00 annually for the next three years and the intent to subgrant these funds to the City and Borough of Sitka (CBS). She summarized discussions between STA and CBS that outlined ways funds could be deployed that increased the effectiveness of deferred maintenance and meet the goals and criteria of the program of directly benefitting STA members.

Riley inquired about CBS' and STA's match requirements. Perkins explained STA's requirements and how it planned to meet the required 15% match, and Gabel explained the 100% match requirements for CBS. De Jong inquired about how much the funding could help with deferred maintenance; Gabel explained that it could be used for equipment purchases or other needs that boost resiliency. Hope thanked the staff for finding ways for CBS and STA to collaborate to receive federal funding.

Hope moved to support the collaboration between CBS and STA to receive these funds.

Motion PASSED 5-0 by roll call vote.

B. Discussion/Direction/Decision on Sitka Community Renewable Energy Strategy (SCRES) May and June Deliverables

Taylor summarized the calendar Gabel had introduced to streamline Commissioner engagement with the technical team for the SCRES. Gabel summarized the work the technical team had done in May, specifically delegating the educational modules for completion and outlined what they were planning on completing in June, primarily the greenhouse gas emissions inventory. Hope suggested that the Commission consider planning a Sustainability Conference in the fall to help with SCRES engagement and energy-related topics, such as EVs.

VIII. PERSONS TO BE HEARD *(not to exceed 3 minutes on topics on or off the agenda)*

Barkhau reported on conversations he had with previous the Utility Director and Municipal Administrator about the amount of deferred maintenance of the electric system.

IX. REPORTS *(Staff, Chair, Assembly, Commissioners)*

Staff: Gabel summarized the work of the Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) kickoff. She summarized the Green Lake FERC correspondence to the Commission and that public meetings for the Green Lake FERC relicensing project were June 12th at 10:00 A.M. and 6:30 P.M.

Chair: Taylor reported on the work done by the municipal solid waste (MSW) working group and the Public Works department and their plan to get an MSW policy drafted.

Commissioners: Hope announced that he would be attending the Alternative Fuel Corridor Workshop hosted by the Tulalip Tribe in Washington.

X. SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA

The next meeting was scheduled for July 1, 2024 at 6:00 P.M., in Harrigan Centennial Hall.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Acting Chair Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting.

Seeing no objection, the meeting ADJOURNED at approximately 6:38 P.M.

Minutes By: Bri Gabel, Staff Liaison