



CITY OF BURLINGTON, VERMONT
CITY COUNCIL TRANSPORTATION, ENERGY & UTILITIES COMMITTEE

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Councilor Mark Barlow, Chair, North District
Councilor Gene Bergman, Ward 2
Councilor Hannah King, Ward 8

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Transportation, Energy and Utilities Committee of the City Council
Wednesday March 26th, 2024 – 5:00PM

DPW Front Conference Room
645 Pine Street, Burlington, VT 05401

–DRAFT MINUTES–

Meeting starts 5:00pm

1. Agenda

Councilor Bergman moves to approve the agenda. Chair Barlow seconds. Councilor King not present for meeting. Director Chapin Spencer notes there is a Water Resources discussion item regarding water main break protocols in the Director's Report. All in favor, passes unanimously.

2. Minutes of:

- 2.27.24
- 3.13.24

Councilor Bergman moves to adopt both minutes as written. Chair Barlow seconds. All in favor, passes unanimously.

3. Public Forum

Pike Porter – Thanks everyone for providing airport information. Would like to request that the NetZero Energy Roadmap reflect all Airport and Transportation emissions.

Ashley Adams – Pleased to see report from airport. Larger issue for sustainability is expanding airport. Echo what Pike said regarding counting emissions reporting.

Closes at 5:03PM

4.1 VTANG/Airport Greenhouse Gas Emission Update

Airport: Director Nic Longo, Marie Freedman, Larry Lacky, Hannah Dusablon

VTANG: Col Dan Finnegan, Mr. Shannon Kelley – Environmental Manager, Major Mathew Lehman - Base Civil Engineer

Director Nic Longo goes over Airport presentation.

Col Dan Finnegan – Overview of MOU and updates. Resolution highlighted need to refine what we can and can't do in MOU. F35 Simulators are in place and used since before the aircraft were delivered. There is a limit to how much simulation can replace actual flights. The Air Force tells us how much we need to fly. Reducing aviation GHG emissions is being tackled by:

- Current flying rates are less than what is allowed.
- Started researching sustainable fuels which does not work with the Airforce craft

GHG emissions from ground operations and building efficiency is the single biggest thing they can impact. The new facility is 15 years in the making with geothermal and other net zero methods. The current solar farm is the biggest in the national guard. This was based on congressional money. Energy is captured and stored in batteries to support fire operations in an emergency.

Councilor Gene Bergman – Requests noise mapping and continued updates on ground emissions work.
Col Finnegan – We need data to support noise. We are flying different profiles and testing.

Item ends 6:12PM

4.2 GMT Fare Policy

Clayton Clark goes over fare system, route updates and potential Council resolution.

Councilor Gene Bergman – Outreach to actual current riders on College St route (Route 11) needs to be done before we consider the resolution. College St Shuttle has been fare free for a very long time unlike City loop so extra outreach is not needed there.

CC: GMT to provide fliers on buses. Work with Americorp member to do additional outreach at the Downtown Transit Center and on board if possible.

Chair Barlow– We will circle back offline to confirm outreach and to get information by April 5th and then we will potentially sponsor resolution (as individual Councilors) for first Council meeting with new members. We will also need to communicate with the Mayor-Elect.

Councilor Bergman moves to authorize a communication to the Mayor-Elect with Director Spencer, Clayton Clark, Chair Barlow and Councilor Bergman to explain the resolution and the plan to go before full council on April 15th. Chair Barlow seconds. All in favor. Passes unanimously

CS to reach out to Mayor-Elect.

Item ends 6:48PM

4.3 Bikeshare Update

Katie Martin (CATMA) and Jeremy Lynch (BIRD) provide update.

Councilor Gene Bergman – Parking of bikes improperly blocking sidewalks. How is this being resolved?
JL – Majority are parked correctly. Response time is typically 2 hrs. We can continue to communicate to members where and how to park.

GB – Not pleased with having to get another app to report this. Needs to be more proactive work from Bird to resolve.

Chair Mark Barlow – In the previous memo from the 27th there were four discrete action items mentioned as part of parking strategy, which have been implemented?

KM – Some but not yet the infield bike coordinator or city bike infrastructure.

Collin Mcdermuth – Resident and student at UVM, bikeshare user. Is there consideration for moving towards docks?

KM – We had docks previously but it was expensive and the company went out of business. Dockless system was far more successful in our community in terms of generating point to point trips. Hesitant to go back to docks.

CM - Lime has a feature where you have to submit a photo to lock the bike and fee if you park improperly.

JL – This is in place for Bird system as well. Warning system specifics are left open to partners to dictate how this is done either with fine or warning and then ban.

Item ends 7:06PM

4.4 License Plate Reader Technology

Jackie Esperti – Provides overview of communication and efforts at the Statehouse to change Statute that would allow municipal use of license plate reader technology for parking compliance.

Chair Mark Barlow – Supportive of effort to at least get State to allow use.

Councilor Gene Bergman – Concerns with privacy, want to make sure we have safeguards built in

JE – We too want to ensure a secure system is in place. The name is not connected to the plate until someone doesn't pay a ticket within 30 days. Program expunges photos after specified times.

Damion Gilbert, AFSCME Union President – Expresses concern that this will eliminate union positions.

GB – Would like to know what impact is to union jobs and encourages Management and AFSCME leadership to discuss.

Chapin Spencer – That is the plan.

Item ends 7:23PM

5. Director's Report

Director Chapin Spencer – Provides update on Management's report on the City's water main break policies and procedures after receiving an employee complaint.

Megan Moir goes over slideshow of improvements that are underway.

Councilor Gene Bergman – Would like CC to be made aware of boil water notices.

MM and CS – That is currently done and we will continue to do this.

Damion Gilbert – Recounts situation of two previous water main breaks and problems with how the break was handled. There should be zero risk for drinking water.

GB – Would like an update once more policy and procedure improvements are in place.

Item ends 8:04PM

6. Councilor Items

Councilor Bergman – Appreciative of staff's work and commitment to the City.

Chair Barlow – Agrees.

7. Next Meeting 4/23/24

8. Adjourn

Meeting adjourns 8:05 PM