

# Energy Plan Commission

Meeting Minutes May 18, 2022

Regular Meeting - City Hall Room 155

**Attendance:** Commissioners: Alison Hoxie, Gary Olson, Cassandra Theisen, Robert Reichert, Scott Wishart  
**Absent:** Brian Hinderliter, Tari Rayala.

**City Staff:** Mindy Granley, Sustainability Officer; Mike LeBeau, Construction Project Supervisor; Alex Jackson, Energy Coordinator; Jim Filby Williams, Director – Property, Parks, & Libraries; Jennifer Ondrik, Administrative Specialist; Julia Forberg, AmeriCorps VISTA member serving as Energy and Sustainability Assistant.

## Call to Order:

The meeting started at 4:06 pm.

## Old Business:

None

## New Business:

**GHG Update** – Julia Forberg, Energy and Sustainability Assistant presented the figures and updated numbers on the Greenhouse Gas municipal emissions data. She explained the metrics used to track this data and led a hands activity using the figures from 2018. (See attached report)

**Duluth's Energy Plan Approach** – Alex Jackson addressed the Commission and shared the strategies the city is currently using to reduce emissions. The original energy plan was developed to help the city achieve 80% reduction of CHG Emission from 2008. The group discussed changes that will likely need to occur to move toward the new commitment of carbon neutral by 2050. Alex explained the three main elements of the plan 20% – Conservation to reduce consumption; 20% - Renewals to off-set consumption; 60% - Reduce Utility CHG emissions.

**Other Cities / Presentation invitation discussion-** Mindy Granley asked the Commission to make suggestions to her directly on who the Commission would like to hear from in future meetings.

**2022 Energy Plan Commission Goals** – New appointed chair, Cassie Theisen, shared her vision and goals for the EPC in 2022. The three areas of emphasis are on municipal utilities, electric vehicles, & moving the commissions' scope beyond buildings to include community-wide energy issues.

**Local Building Sciences Training** – Mike LeBeau shared his concept vision for a mandatory training session / certification course to be offered and required for local contractors, architects, and designers. Offering and requiring this type of course would hopefully increase design and building performance *past* code minimums. The Commission suggested the City consider bringing in an energy modeler on our projects.

**Energy Coordinator Update** – Alex Jackson updated the commission on the City Hall MEP Project, progress made on building controls and card access, and echelon lighting controls.

**Sustainability Update** – Mindy provided an extensive update of the work she has been focused on over the last two months (see attached report).

**Future Meeting Topics / Announcements:**

Commissioner Reichert would like to have microphones available at our next meeting.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Adjournment:**

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:59 PM, M/S/C.