

Overview of the Draft Energy Plan by Richard Heinemann

Mr. Heinemann presented the draft Energy Plan generated by the Energy Plan work group. The work group is seeking input from the committee and others on the draft with the hope of presenting a final plan to the Common Council for consideration at the end of November. The workgroup has interfaced with the Mayor's Office and MG&E to gather possible input from a wide range of stakeholders.

MG&E will pass on the draft to Don Edwards of JSA, the group that is conducting community conversations throughout the city on energy and infrastructure. SVC members and city staff have been represented at the community conversations with the idea that all should contribute to the discussions on the vision for energy use. The plan calls for on-going dialog with MG&E around energy policies and practices. Members felt that the City should be more proactive on energy planning, within the parameters of allowing MG&E to develop their own plans and run their business. Heinemann that parts of the Energy Plan would require a specific MOU (Memo of Understanding) between City and MG&E with regard to implementing some of the Plan elements and gathering on-going outside stakeholder input.

Some key recommendations of the Energy Plan. One is the creation of an ad hoc Committee on Climate Change Leadership that would update climate change goals for the City. SVC members also wanted the energy plan to link to the Carbon and Energy category of the Madison Sustainability Plan and help guide any updates of that section as needed. Further discussion evolved around how this would link with SMC and other committees working on environmental, economic and social issues. Any ad hoc committee should be created by the SMC.

A second key recommendation was the creation of a high level position in City Operations to focus on resilience and innovation. Heinemann referred to the position as an Energy Manager and discussion revolved around specific roles and responsibilities for the position. Rogers put forth the need for specific accountability language in the plan and that assignments of the specific bullets in this section should be outlined. Ms. Rogers believes that reporting back to SMC on these specific responsibilities should be explicitly detailed in the Plan.

Green asked staff about the budget timing for a new position and van Lith said that it would not happen this year, since budget recommendations have been made. Mr van Lith spoke to some of the elements of the position being already part of other positions and initiatives, like the energy leadership development program and possible changes to existing position descriptions. (More on that program is discussed in the next agenda item.) Heinemann also reminded the committee that

accountabilities and assignments are already highlighted in the Sustainability Plan.

Rogers suggested language changes about making policy changes and recommendations. Heinemann will add review goals and make change recommendations, as needed, to the language. Green asked about funding and requested an update on the 2015 expenditures from Madison Megawatt and what was planned for 2016. Hoffmann will report out on this at next meeting.

Heinemann reviewed all bullet points and members suggested changes. He noted changes on his draft and will report back to committee on updates. Benchmarking would need assessment language.

PACE program recommendation was of particular interest to committee and Breidenbach suggested that banks need to be partners in this type of program. SMC has previously had a presentation on Milwaukee's PACE program and more study on this with stakeholder involvement may be needed, if Council adopts Energy Plan recommendations. Breidenbach will review residential / PACE language and send to Heinemann.

Rogers mentioned Zoning Code bullet and need to insure code supports solar and renewable energy. Breidenbach and van Lith highlighted that code had been updated recently and that there are sections on solar and wind. Heinemann stated that he had a summer intern look at new code and sustainability elements in summer and write a report. Report should be on SMC agenda for August. Staff will review and also invite Matt Tucker, the Zoning Administrator, to present to the committee and answer questions on code.

Heinemann felt that the economic /job development section may need more fleshing out.

Heinemann thought perhaps some of the initiatives that MG&E was doing with Middleton on Energy Storage. Members discussed LED street light fixtures and MG&E and City practices in this area. An LED lighting rate is needed from the PSC.

Members felt there should be more cooperation between city and MG&E and that issues around distribution system upgrades, fixed rate fee structure, overall rate design that promotes energy efficiency and more usage analytics for customers would be points to consider.

Shields stated that community conversations and new programs would enhance the dialog and provide options for MG&E to help consumers. Heinemann felt that MOU language would also help codify issues and improve flexibility and options for consumers.

Green asked about Clean Energy Planning and was surprised that it did not appear in the draft Plan. Heinemann stated that the work group did have specific language on clean energy and does not know why it is not in this draft. He will check to make sure language was added back in.

Rogers asked if order of bullets was important to convey priorities. Heinemann felt they did not need to be reordered and that there was importance in all of the recommendations.

Green mentioned staff comments on shared savings programs. Shields said such programs were in existence now and provided a brief outline.

Rogers felt that SMC should state priorities for the MOU. Reduce peak energy use, address equity issues around fee structure and increase renewable energy generation. She will email thoughts to Heinemann for review with workgroup.