AUSTIN ENERGY UTILITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE **REGULAR MEETING**
MINUTES **APRIL 24, 2017**

The Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee convened in a regular meeting on Monday, April 24, 2017 at 301 W. 2nd Street in Austin, Texas.

Chair Leslie Pool called the committee meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

Committee Members in attendance:
Council Member Leslie Pool, Chair
Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo
Council Member Alison Alter
Council Member Gregorio Casar
Council Member Jimmy Flannigan
Council Member Delia Garza
Council Member Ora Houston
Council Member Sabino "Pio" Renteria
Council Member Ellen Troxclair

Committee Members absent:
Mayor Steve Adler, Vice Chair
Council Member Ann Kitchen

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Approve the minutes of the Austin Energy Utility Oversight Committee meeting of March 27, 2017.**

The minutes of the March 27, 2017 meeting were approved on Council Member Casar's motion, and Council Member Alter's second, on a 7-0 vote. Mayor Adler and Council Members Kitchen, Renteria, and Troxclair were off the dais.

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

2. **The first five speakers signed up before the meeting is called to order will each be allowed three minutes to speak on items not on the agenda.**

There were no speakers.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

3. **General Manager's report:**
   - **Successful transition of the City's utilities billing system infrastructure;**
   - **Request for proposals for utility-scale solar energy and capacity;**

- **Upcoming procurements for transmission and distribution line clearing services.**
  (Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 1: Mayor Steve Adler, CO 2: Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo)

Jackie Sargent, General Manager, provided the report. Discussion included who to contact regarding vegetation on power lines and use of contractors for line clearance services.

4. **Business Excellence section of the Austin Energy Monthly Performance Dashboard related to generation resource performance, power supply adjustment, and capital improvement budget.**
   (Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 1: Mayor Steve Adler, CO 2: Council Member Ann Kitchen)

Elaina Ball, Deputy General Manager and Chief Operating Officer, and Mark Dombroski, Deputy General Manager and Chief Financial and Risk Officer, provided the presentation.

5. **Austin Energy facilities planning.**
   (Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 1: Mayor Steve Adler, CO 2: Council Member Ann Kitchen)

Mark Dombroski and Lauraine Rizer, Office of Real Estate Services, provided the presentation. Discussion included options for the laydown yard, specific property details, the scope of the request for proposals planning for Ryan Drive and Town Lake Center properties, possibility of working with other governmental entities, and use of current City-owned properties. A request was made for Austin Energy to provide the dates and cost associated with the acquisition of the Ryan Drive and Town Lake Center properties.

6. **Amendments to the City's Energy Code to require that new residential and commercial buildings are constructed to be solar ready.**
   (Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 1: Mayor Steve Adler, CO 2: Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo)

Debbie Kimberly, Vice President, Customer Energy Solutions; Kurt Stogdill, Manager, Green Building and Emerging Technologies; and José Roig and Tony Hernandez, Development Services Department, provided the presentation. Discussion included compatibility with proposed plumbing codes, incorporation of the amendment at the design stage, impact on affordability, and other cities that have passed similar amendments. A request was made for more information on amendments passed by other cities.

There were two speakers:

- Glen Coleman, representing the Greater Austin Homebuilders Association, stated the amendment does add a little bit of cost, but Austin's use of the Uniform Plumbing Code makes the solar-ready amendment more uncertain. He recommended passage of the International Plumbing Code.
- Kaiba White stated her support of the solar ready amendment, and that it should be enforced in plan review and the field. She also said she hopes that the multifamily requirement for Mueller will be implemented citywide.

7. **Current solar programs for commercial customers and proposed commercial Value of Solar.**
   (Notes: SPONSOR: Council Member Leslie Pool, CO 1: Mayor Steve Adler, CO 2: Mayor Pro Tem Kathie Tovo)

Debbie Kimberly and Danielle Murray, Manager, Solar Energy Services, provided the presentation.

There were four speakers:

- Cathy Redson stated the commercial Value of Solar is a wonderful opportunity that gives predictability and allows analysis which businesses want. She added that a floor can also be added to the value to provide additional predictability.
- Kaiba White said she was excited to see commercial Value of Solar coming forward as it is important for customers and for the city to meet its renewable goals. She also said she is in support of locking in the value for five years.
- Dale Bulla shared his experience with residential Value of Solar and stated this may be the only incentive when federal solar incentives run out.
- Mark Begert gave kudos to staff for their work in bringing commercial Value of Solar forward. He said solar will proliferate in the next 5-10 years allowing the city to reach its current goals easily.

FUTURE ITEMS

8. Discussion of future agenda items.

This item was not addressed.

ADJOURN
Chair Pool adjourned the meeting at 11:44 a.m. without objection.

The minutes were approved on this the 19th day of June 2017 on Council Member Alter's motion, Mayor Adler's second on a 6-0 vote. Mayor Pro Tem Tovo and Council Members Casar, Kitchen, Renteria, and Troxclair were off the dais.