



# Lowell City Council

## *Technology & Utilities SC Meeting Minutes*

Michael Q. Geary  
City Clerk

**Date:** April 23, 2019  
**Time:** 5:34 PM  
**Location:** City Council Chamber  
375 Merrimack Street, 2nd Floor, Lowell, MA

### **PRESENT:**

Present on Roll Call were Chairman Leahy, C. Cirillo and C. Nuon. Also present were C. Mercier; C. Conway; C. Elliott; Conor Baldwin, CFO; Philip Ferreira, Housing and Energy Manager, Katherine Moses.

### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

Chairman Leahy called the meeting to order at 5:34 PM in the Council Chamber and opened discussion regarding Municipal Aggregation Plan. Chairman Leahy then turned the meeting over to Katherine Moses, Energy Manager DPD.

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

Ms. Moses presented a handout provided to the sub/committee members entitled "Municipal Aggregation: Options for Greening our Next Contract" prepared by DPD and provided a brief presentation on such handout. C. Nuon questioned the difference between single contract and multi contracts and what would Ms. Moses recommend. Ms. Moses explained currently we can only have a single rate but if we go to amend the aggregation program this would be advantageous. Ms. Moses further explained the advantages. It would allow lower prices, could shelter some residents with limited income streams but still be moving the Commonwealth in a more renewable energy. Ms. Moses explained it is just a question of what we would like to do for our residents of the city. C. Nuon noted that the three different rates would help us in reaching the goal of more renewable energy faster than the single rate. C. Cirillo noted that she does not see any downside only savings and maximum choices. C. Leahy said he would to start the process for the best option for the City. Ms. Moses noted although we have not started yet we could start looking at pricing now which could be an advantage. C. Mercier questioned cost. Philip Ferreira, Housing & Energy Program Manager DPD noted the more green we incorporate in the contract the higher the price would go and that they would go with whatever the City feels is the appropriate content. C. Elliott questioned why it would take 9 to 12 months and Mr.



Ferreira explained that it is the Department of Public Utilities process. C. Elliott agreed that we should provide options to the residents but also to structure bill so as to not confuse the residents. Mr. Ferreira explained that communication would come from the City on city letterhead where it is all spelled out. Jay Mason, resident, spoke regarding what the different brokers could do for us and explained that the City could do a lot better. Steve Maglioti, resident, noted resolution the City Council adopted in 2017 and explained that price is not the issue, its purpose. Steve Grossman, resident, reiterated again it's not about the price but about the purpose. Ty Chum, resident, explained that he was excited about the clean renewable energy. After further discussion C. Leahy moved, seconded by C. Cirillo "To recommend we start the process to amend our aggregation program to allow for renewable energy content". So voted 3 yeas. C. Cirillo then moved, seconded by C. Leahy "To amend the motion to also include Class I REC'S". So voted 3 yeas. C. Leahy stated with the understanding to stay with same broker and to make it clear that we want same rates that the other companies/brokers are getting.

**Motion** by Chairman Leahy, seconded by C. Cirillo "To request The City start the process to amend the Aggregation Program to allow for a greener rate which includes Class I REC's". Adopted per Roll Call vote 3 yeas. So voted.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion** to adjourn by C. Cirillo, seconded by C. Nuon. So Voted.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

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Angela Gitschier, Assistant City Clerk