



FULL COUNCIL MEETING DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, January 16, 2025 | 3:00 - 5:00 PM

Department of Administration Conference Room 2A, Providence, RI 02908

Members in Attendance:

Harry Oakley, Sue AnderBois, Peter Gill Case, Chris Kearns, Joe Garlick, Kurt Teichert, Priscilla De La Cruz (arrived at 3:15 p.m.), Dave Caldwell (arrived at 3:40 p.m.)

Others in Attendance:

Steven Chybowski, Katie Critelli, Craig Johnson, Jordan Galluzzo, Helen Anthony, Toby Ast, Christina Santos, Karen Bradbury, Kyle Lynch, Theo Smith, Adrian Caesar (virtual), Rachel Sholly (virtual), Mark Thomson (virtual), Spencer Lawrence (virtual), Alison Donovan (virtual), Lee Gresham (virtual), Ann Clarke (virtual), Mark Kravatz (virtual), Tina Munter (virtual), Brendan Dagher (virtual), Tyler Olney (virtual), Ari Gold-Parker (virtual), Brett Feldman (virtual)

1. Call to Order

Chair Oakley called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

2. Chair Report

Chair Oakley shared the meeting logistics and how to submit public comment. He also outlined the meeting's agenda and shared the date for the next RI Energy EE technical working group.

Council Member AnderBois provided a summary of the recent energy efficiency presentation to legislators. There was good engagement and feedback from the sessions.

3. Executive Director Report

Acting Commissioner Kearns shared many updates, including information about the Resilient Microgrids for Critical Services program, policies for EV chargers on state properties, OER's electric leaf blowing program, recruiting contractors for HEAR, the Clean Heat program, and the RGGI 2024-D Draft allocation.

4. Meeting Minutes – December 19, 2024

Chair Oakley motioned to approve the minutes from the December 19, 2024 meeting. Council Member De La Cruz seconded. Council Members AnderBois, Gill Case, Teichert voted in favor. Council Member Garlick abstained. None opposed, and the minutes were passed.

5. Public Comment

None.

6. Council Business

- a. *Review and Potential Vote on the Consultant Team's 2025 Scope of Work*



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Mr. Johnson reviewed the Consultant Team's 2025 scope of work, highlighting some items that were added, changed, or updated for the year. The Council discussed the changes.

Mr. Chybowski explained the options regarding the vote. Council Member Gill Case motioned to approve the 2025 scope of work for the Consultant Team, led by Optimal Energy, and the associated budget for that scope of work as presented at the January 16, 2025 Council meeting. Further, to direct the Office of Energy Resources to incorporate this scope of work and budget into the current consultant services contract. Council Member AnderBois seconded. All in favor, none opposed, and the scope of work was approved.

b. *Review of Council's Contracted Services for 2025*

Mr. Chybowski presented a high-level overview of the Council's contracted services. This included the Council's consultant services, legal services, public forum/lecture series and EE and climate public awareness campaign activities. He provided details on the contracts and suggested things to consider.

Chair Oakley raised the point that all contracts tend to end in April and would like to get them on the calendar year going forward. It was decided that these issues will be revisited in the October Executive Committee meeting. Chair Oakley suggested Mr. Chybowski poll the members on expected attendance to ensure there's a quorum for voting in February.

7. Program Oversight

a. *Debrief on 24-39-EE Docket Proceedings*

Mr. Johnson, Mr. Ast and Mr. Chybowski presented on the docket proceedings, including the Council discussion, RI Energy's main takeaways and some highlights. OER presented on coordinating with RI Energy programs as well as facilitating increased communication between the PUC and EEC.

b. *Discussion of Council Priorities for the 2026 Program Year*

Mr. Johnson presented on the priorities for the Council's consideration and discussion. This item will be revisited at the next Council meeting for additional thoughts.

c. *Rhode Island Energy Presentation on Old Mill Lane and Aquidneck Island Programming*

Mr. Gresham from RI Energy presented on the Mill Lane LNG Vaporization Facility NPA Analysis. Mr. Gold-Parker from E3 presented on the project concept. Council Member



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Gill Case asked about costs and timeline. Council Member Teichert asked about this project in relation to the Future of Gas. Council Member AnderBois asked them to come back after the June deadline to share additional updates.

8. **Adjournment**

Chair Oakley adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

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