



FULL COUNCIL DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 26, 2025 | 3:00 – 5:00 PM

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

Members in Attendance:

Peter Gill Case, Brett Feldman, Chris Kearns, Sue AnderBois, Tom Magliocchetti, Dave Caldwell (departed at 3:09 PM), Priscilla De La Cruz (arrived at 3:09 PM)

Others in Attendance:

Steven Chybowski, Georgia Cheney, Katie Critelli, Craig Johnson, Luke Meunier, Sarah Doherty, Alison Donovan, Logan Ziegler, Brendan Dagher, Grant Dulgarian, Ann Clarke (virtual), Adrian Caesar (virtual), Jeremy Newberger (virtual), Samantha Caputo (virtual), Robin Donnelly (virtual), Theo Smith (virtual), Dr. Carrie Gill (virtual), Rachel Sholly (virtual), Jordan Galluzzo (virtual), Emily Koo (virtual)

1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Gill Case called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

2. Chair Report

Vice Chair Gill Case shared the meeting logistics and how to submit public comment. He outlined the agenda consisting of program oversight and council business. Program oversight will include the 2024 program performance and the initial plans for the 2026 energy efficiency plan. Council business will begin discussing the 2026 Council's budget. The Office of Energy Resources (OER) will be sending out a survey to ensure a quorum will be met at the upcoming meetings as there are several key voting items in the coming months.

3. Executive Director Report

Acting Commissioner Kearns provided updates from OER. These include the Lead by Example dashboard, the RGGI Allocation Plan, and the Leaf Blower Rebate Program. He also shared updates on federal funding, specifically with regards to the HEAR and HER programs. He closed his updates with legislative updates, including that OER was granted one additional full-time employee. He also noted that there were no appointments or reappointments to the Council during this legislative session.

4. Meeting Minutes – May 15, 2025

A quorum was not met; the minutes will be held until the July meeting.

5. Public Comment

Emily Koo, Acadia Center

Ms. Koo expressed her opinion regarding the 2024 Rhode Island Energy Program Performance and her thoughts that reducing energy efficiency budgets is shortsighted. She shared input on the benchmarking tool from the Company and suggested that messaging should make it clear that it would become available to all customers. Regarding benchmarking legislation at the Statehouse, she expressed disappointment that legislation did not pass this session, but did



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request that there be more public comment opportunities with the benchmarking study requested by the Senate.

6. Program Oversight

a. Presentation and Discussion of 2024 end-of-year Program Performance

Mr. Johnson, of the Council's Consultant Team, opened with six key takeaways from the 2024 programming and explained that the presentation will include data to support each takeaway. He showed the electric portfolio and gas portfolio lifetime savings and displayed bubble charts showing programs of high achievement/high savings and low achievement/low savings to illustrate which programs need attention in order to increase performance.

Mr. Dagher, of Rhode Island Energy, presented two big themes in the Commercial and Industrial (C+I) sector: 1) Reluctancy to invest in new gas systems 2) lower uptake of largest measures on the electric side. He suggested reading the year-end report for additional information. Council Member Gill Case asked about projects that did not screen for cost-effectiveness and Mr. Dagher offered to get back to the Council with examples of projects that didn't screen. Mr. Feldman used windows as one example.

Council discussion included considerations such as how these results will impact the 2026 plan and what tools to advocate for to improve the strategy and achievement. Council Member AnderBois asked whether RIE knew how significant the underperformance was during the year.

b. Rhode Island Energy Presentation of the 2026 Draft Plan Narrative

Council Member Feldman presented on the 2026 Draft Plan Narrative. Acting Commissioner Kearns asked about CHP projects in the queue, which would expect to be filed separately if ready for consideration.

c. Council Discussion on the 2026 Draft Plan Narrative

Mr. Johnson shared that the C-Team is in the process of reviewing the 2026 Plan proposal. Acting Commissioner Kearns asked about the reduction of administrative costs. Council Member AnderBois asked for an additional breakdown of what is included in the administrative costs. Council Members expressed disappointment and concern with the plan, with the scaling back of the budget a particular concern.

7. Council Business

a. Council Discussion on the 2026 Council Budget Proposal



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Mr. Chybowski presented on the 2026 budget planning timeline and showed the modifications from 2024 and 2025 budgets. He also displayed the 2025 council spending to date. He posed discussion questions for the council to consider in preparing for upcoming discussions.

8. Public Comment

Council Member Feldman spoke about Old Mill Lane and shared that RIE had the first demand response event on Tuesday for the public's awareness.

9. Adjournment

Vice Chair Gill Case adjourned the meeting at 5:02 p.m.