



## FULL COUNCIL DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

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

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

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### Members in Attendance:

Brett Feldman, Joe Garlick, Sue AnderBois, Peter Gill Case, Tom Magliocchetti, Priscilla De La Cruz, Harry Oakley, Carrie Gill

### Others in Attendance:

Steven Chybowski, Georgia Cheney, Nick Scott, Rayna Vasquez, Katherine Yang, Katie Critelli, Craig Johnson, Toby Ast, Adrian Caesar, Emily Koo, Atticus Makuch, Rachel Sholly, Luke Meunier, Jack Green, Emil Heagy (virtual), Mark Kravatz (virtual), Luke Miller (virtual), Tina Munter (virtual), Mark Thomson (virtual), Brendan Dagher (virtual), Jordan Galluzzo (virtual), Alison Donovan (virtual), Logan Ziegler (virtual), Theo Smith (virtual), Samantha Caputo (virtual), Jeremy Newberger (virtual), Ann Clarke (virtual), Ariel McCord (virtual), Serena Russell (virtual), Lee Gresham (virtual)

#### 1. Call to Order

Vice Chair Gill Case called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

#### 2. Chair Report

Vice Chair Gill Case shared the meeting logistics and reviewed the agenda. Program oversight will include Rhode Island Energy's (RIE) 2025 Q1 energy efficiency (EE) program results and 2026 plan development updates. The Council's consultant team will present on their takeaways from the 2026 EE plan draft and will also lead a discussion on the Old Mill Lane docket. In Council Business, the Council will review and discuss their 2026 budget proposal with the option to vote on its approval.

#### 3. Executive Director Report

Mr. Chybowski provided the Executive Director report on behalf of the Office of Energy Resources (OER). He spoke about recent developments and phasing out of federal clean energy tax credits, but shared that OER has successfully secured grant funding for appliance rebates, workforce development, and electric vehicle infrastructure. He also mentioned that Clean Heat RI is expected to relaunch soon, and more details will be available on the Clean Heat website once launched.

#### 4. Meeting Minutes

##### a. May 15, 2025

Chair Oakley motioned to approve the May 15, 2025 meeting minutes. Council Member AnderBois seconded. All in favor, none opposed, and the meeting minutes were approved.

##### b. June 26, 2025



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Chair Oakley motioned to approve the June 26, 2025 meeting minutes. Council Member AnderBois seconded. Council Members Gill Case, Magliocchetti, and De La Cruz voted in favor, Council Member Garlick abstained, and the minutes were approved.

### 5. Public Comment

None.

### 6. Program Oversight

#### a. *Presentation and Discussion of 2025 Q1 Program Results*

Mr. Makuch of RIE highlighted Q1 highlights and performance overview in the different sectors. He shared that there were some tracking issues at the end of the year which resulted in a reporting lag.

#### b. *Rhode Island Energy Presentation of the 2026 Plan Development Updates*

Mr. Ast of RIE displayed the timeline leading up to the October 1<sup>st</sup> filing deadline for the 2026 EE plan. He shared an overview of stakeholder feedback. The feedback themes included the overall budget proposal, the Act on Climate, equity, electrification, program design, and requested metrics. He noted that most of the programmatic reductions are being proposed in the commercial and industrial (C+I) portfolio.

#### c. *Consultant Team Presentation and Facilitated Discussion on the 2026 Draft Plan*

Mr. Johnson and Mr. Caesar of the Council's consultant team presented on the 2026 draft plan key takeaways, portfolio perspectives, and a narrative review. The narrative review touched on an overall plan summary and cost; equity; workforce development; participation and outreach; coordination with other policies, and program-level feedback. They shared that the proposal does still include incentives for gas equipment for space and water heating, but that the funding is declining. Council Members discussed and asked questions to see more analysis of the ratepayer impacts and collections consideration.

#### d. *Consultant Team Presentation on Docket 25-16-NG and Potential Vote for Approval of Council Comments Submission*

Mr. Johnson of the consultant team presented a memo outlining Docket 25-16-NG and suggested comments that the Council could submit to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). Council Member AnderBois motioned to recommend that the Consultant Team submit comments to the PUC for Docket 25-16-NG consistent with what was presented today, subject to minor (non-substantive) edits. Vice Chair Gill Case seconded; all in favor, none opposed, and the vote passed.



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### 7. Council Business

#### *a. Council Discussion and Potential Vote on the 2026 Draft EEC Budget Proposal*

Mr. Chybowski of OER presented a draft 2026 budget, summarizing proposed changes from the Council's 2025 budget. The proposed 2026 budget as presented was 9% lower than the approved 2025 budget. He also shared that we do not yet know what the Council's budgetary cap may be for 2026, but that it may be a factor for the next year. Council Member De La Cruz flagged the upcoming rate case which may create additional work for consultant and legal services, where reductions in those categories may not be ideal. Mr. Feldman also relayed Council Member Gill's comments regarding some of the Council's expenditures. Council Member AnderBois motioned to approve the 2026 Draft Council Budget Proposal for inclusion in the Rhode Island Energy plan. Council Member De La Cruz seconded. All in favor, none opposed, and the budget proposal was approved.

### 8. Public Comment

None.

### 9. Adjournment

Chair Oakley adjourned the meeting at 5:01 p.m.