

# ***City Council Meeting Minutes***

**October 10, 2023  
City Hall, Council Chambers  
749 Main Street  
6:00 PM**

**Call to Order** – Mayor Maloney called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. **Roll Call** was taken and the following members were present:

**City Council:**     ***Mayor Dennis Maloney  
Mayor Pro Tem Deborah Fahey  
Councilmember Caleb Dickinson (arrived 6:03 pm)  
Councilmember Barbara Hamlington  
Councilmember Dietrich Hoefner  
Councilmember Chris Leh***

**Absent:**           ***Councilmember Maxine Most***

**Staff Present:**   ***Samma Fox, Deputy City Manager  
Kurt Kowar, Public Works Director  
Kevin Frey, Facilities Manager  
Ryder Bailey, Finance Director  
Emily Hogan, Assistant City Manager  
Kayla Betzold, Sustainability Manager  
Meredyth Muth, City Clerk***

**Others Present:** ***Melinda Culley, Deputy City Attorney***

## **RESOLUTION NO. 48, SERIES 2023 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERNAL DECARBONIZATION PLAN FOR THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE ORGANIZATION – *continued from 8/15/23***

Sustainability Manager Betzold stated that in 2022, the City contracted with McKinstry Essention, LCC to complete an engineering, mechanical and financial analysis for each municipal facility site, fleet, and equipment with the goal of creating a strategic roadmap for cost-effective electrification and decarbonization of all City operations.

In August, staff and the McKinstry team presented the Internal Decarbonization Plan Strategic Roadmap's key findings and a 3-phased implementation approach. Council directed staff to return with more information about funding, financing, and implementation of the Plan's recommendations.

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### ***City of Louisville***

***City Council    749 Main Street    Louisville CO 80027  
303.335.4536 (phone)    www.LouisvilleCO.gov***

This plan is one step in the City meeting its climate action goals set in 2019. Currently, the City is not meeting the municipal goal to decrease core Green House Gas (GHG) emissions annually from the 2016 baseline. In 2021, municipal GHG emissions decreased, but are significantly higher than the baseline year of 2016, likely due to the Recreation Center expansion in 2018. Additionally, this project supports the energy and transportation goals in the Sustainability Action Plan.

Staff has been looking for the best and most cost-effective way to move forward with decarbonization. The plan outlines near, mid, and long term goals for decarbonization of the City's buildings, fleet and equipment. One of the key recommendations from the final report is reviewing the Plan every 5-7 years. For this reason, staff recommends prioritizing the near term recommendations when considering implementation options. Fleet can be implemented through the normal vehicle replacement schedule.

For the near term staff recommends moving forward with energy efficiency at all ten facilities; moving forward with onsite renewable energy at seven sites; and hybrid electrification and EV charging at five facilities.

The near term implementation options include direct City funding and energy performance contracting (EPC). EPC is a Colorado Energy Office managed model for financing and implementing capital improvement upgrades. Utility savings are guaranteed through the contract. If a project does not realize utility savings, the Energy Service Company is responsible for the shortfall. She reviewed three near term implementation options and the costs.

Staff recommends adoption of the Internal Decarbonization Plan and exploring implementation option 3 for near term improvements with solar through the Colorado Energy Office's EPC program and grant funding. Should this be approved, staff will continue to look for grant funding for all projects as well.

#### Public Comments

John Cowley, Louisville, noted that none of the previously adopted climate plans have led to any measurable reduction in GHG emissions. He urged council to approve the plan, commit funding to it, and dedicate a program manager to see it through.

Tiffany Boyd, Louisville, urged Council to approve the plan and option three. She would like to see implementation and a reduction in GHG emissions. She urged onsite renewables to reduce the dependence on Xcel's grid.

Josh Cooperman, Louisville, stated we must do all we can to reduce GHG emissions and we cannot wait. He urged approval of the plan. It will save the City money and reduce emissions. He urged electrification of all City buildings.

Jojo Follmar, Louisville, urged the Council to approve the plan as a major step toward impacting climate change and taking positive action.

Tess Weltzin, Lafayette, urged approval of the plan to help future generations. It is a cost effective way to make real change.

Mayor Pro Tem Fahey asked if the replacement of systems and equipment would happen immediately or at the end of life. Betzold stated the plan would replace equipment at end of life. The five buildings that were chosen for first action all have the equipment that is already on schedule to be replaced as it is at end of life.

Mayor Pro Tem Fahey asked when electric options for heavy equipment might be available. Director Kowar stated it would likely be at least five years.

Councilmember Dickinson stated this plan aligns with our budget and work plan and will focus us on what is attainable in the near term while planning for the mid and long range items. He likes that we are leading by example.

Councilmember Hoefner stated this is a good view of what the financing will be and how it can be a manageable expense for us to work this into our budget. He appreciates the details and how it makes this a doable project. He likes that the utility savings is guaranteed through the financing mechanism.

Councilmember Leh noted this is an important project for many of us. He asked if Federal and State funding will continue and be available in later years. Betzold stated staff is applying for money now as it is available but there is no guarantee it will continue.

Mayor Maloney stated the funds available now through grants are too good to pass up. This is an opportunity we need to take advantage of. He supports option 3. This is a great road map for staff and council to follow and the outcomes will be very positive.

Councilmember Hamlington stated breaking down the plan into bite size pieces makes this easy to understand and adopt.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Leh moved to approve the resolution, Councilmember Hoefner seconded the motion.

**Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
**CITY MANAGER ANNUAL EVALUATION**

Louisville Code of Ethics, Section 5-2(b), CRS 24-6-402(4)(f) – Authorized Topics

Mayor Pro Tem Maloney stated he is requesting the City Council convene an Executive Session for the purpose of conducting an annual performance review of the City Manager.

City Attorney Culley introduced the request for executive session.

City Clerk Muth read Section 2.90.050 – Public statement of the Louisville Municipal Code, which outlines the topics permitted for discussion in an executive session.

City Attorney Culley stated the authority to conduct this executive session comes from the Louisville Code of Ethics, Section 5-2(b) and CRS 24-6-402(4)(f). This discussion Section 5-2(b) authorizes an executive session for the purpose of reviewing the performance of an employee directly appointed by the City Council. This request involves an evaluation of the performance of the City Manager who is an employee directly appointed by the City Manager.

**MOTION:** Mayor Pro Tem Maloney moved the City Council adjourn to executive session for the purpose of discussing an annual performance review of the City Manager as authorized by the laws noted by the City Attorney and the executive session include the Robin Brookhart, Human Resources Manager, Melinda Culley, Deputy City Attorney, and the City Council; seconded by Councilmember Mayor Leh.

**VOTE:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote.

The City Council adjourned to executive session at 6:48 pm.

The City Council meeting reconvened at 8:35 pm.

#### **CITY ATTORNEY REPORT ON THE EXECUTIVE SESSION**

City Attorney Culley reported that while in executive session, the City Council discussed the annual performance review of the City Manager.

#### **ADJOURN**

Members adjourned at 8:37 pm.

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Dennis Maloney, Mayor

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Meredyth Muth, City Clerk