

City of Livingston Conservation Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 10, 2022, 5:30 pm

1. Call to Order: (5:40 PM)
2. Roll Call: (5:40 PM)
 - a. Conservation Board members in attendance: Michael DeChellis, Amy Bowser, Pamela Schaefer, Lindsay Ganong.
 - b. Full quorum present.
3. Public Comment: (5:40 pm)
 - a. None
4. Consent Items: (5:40 PM)
 - a. Approve meeting minutes from April 13, 2022
 - i. Bowser motions to approve minutes. Schaefer seconds minutes. All in favor.
 - b. Approve meeting agenda for August 10, 2022
 - i. All in favor.
5. Agenda Items: (5:41 PM)
 - a. EV infrastructure in Livingston, DeChellis presented
 - i. EV Introduction
 1. Growth policy – promote use of EV, tourism is large part of economy
 2. EV's more available from major US manufacturers, in high demand, can function as a backup generator for homes, hybrid gas and EV models available
 3. Cold weather - range can be reduced up to 30%
 4. Charging – time depends on vehicle and charger capabilities
 - ii. MT DEQ EV Infrastructure Prioritization Study, June 2022
 1. Comprehensive look at EVs in MT
 2. Cost of EVs is coming down and will meet cost of gas vehicle around 2025, maintenance costs are already lower, expecting batteries to get better
 3. Plan based on a medium adoption rate of EVs in MT
 4. Hard to meet expected capacity of tourist EV use in future years.
 - iii. Livingston Current EV
 1. EV stations near Neptune's - Two stations, Cost \$10K, \$1.50 per hour to charge, increase resiliency of city with low investment
 2. Identified as a priority investment site, fast charges with four spots in Livingston in the next 1.5 years, need some matching funding, bids on corridors, required within 1 mile of an I-90 on/off ramp (H89S ramp was chosen).
 - iv. Discussion

1. Benefit of chargers downtown - Charging times are 30 min or more. City can use that time to get business elsewhere. Wind is a concern as I-90 exit to H89S can be cutoff in winter. Resident density is higher downtown and could service locals better.
2. Livingston EV charger placement - Business route is important especially in winter, 1 mile is not enough to get to downtown, encourage local business placement, wiring was put in place in certain parts of the city in expectation of future chargers which could play a role in getting a variance
3. Ways to engage – Reach out to DEQ for variance of 1 mile radius, work with community and city to identify community preferred locations, raise money to put toward chargers, if we do nothing bidding companies will decide for us
4. Next steps –
 - a. Call MT DEQ and find out how to get 1-mile exception (Ganong), arguments:
 - i. Downtown for business access – restaurants, shops, etc.
 - ii. I-90 closes frequently in winter due to wind, 1-mile radius does not encompass diversion route
 - iii. Electrical infrastructure for EV chargers was put in place recently due to roadwork in downtown Livingston
 - iv. More accessible to majority of Livingston residents
 - b. Identify who to work with at City
 - c. Put letter together for the DEQ to get exception to 1-mile radius, commission as signatories on the letter, also contact local businesses for support, partner with local organizations
 - d. Identify logical locations downtown and within the 1-mile radius

6. Public Comment (7:11 pm):

- a. None

7. Adjourned (7:12 pm)

- a. Ganong motions to adjourn meeting. Seconded by DeChellis. All in favor.