



OAKVILLE

REPORT

Council

Meeting Date: October 21, 2024

FROM: Corporate Strategy and Government Relations Department

DATE: October 8, 2024

SUBJECT: Future Energy Oakville Annual Update

LOCATION: Town Hall

WARD: Town-wide

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RECOMMENDATION:

That the presentation from Future Energy Oakville regarding its annual update be received.

KEY FACTS:

The following are key points for consideration with respect to this report:

- Council endorsed the Community Energy Strategy in February 2020, including support to develop and establish Future Energy Oakville (FEO) as an independent, community-based, not-for-profit organization to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy.
- As per FEO's [Services Agreement](#) with the Town, FEO delegates annually to Council, providing its own progress update with financial, analytic, and operational data to show its progress.

BACKGROUND:

Community Energy Strategy

The [Community Energy Strategy](#) (CES) was unanimously endorsed by Council in February 2020, which was developed in collaboration between the Town, Sheridan College, and the Oakville Energy Task Force (OETF). The CES established a common community vision for innovation and collaboration to achieve a sustainable energy future and set 2041 community-wide goals for improving energy efficiency, reducing GHG emissions, and enhancing the local economy.

Along with the endorsement of the CES, Council committed to providing financial and in-kind support to develop and establish an Implementation Management Office,

initially over a five-year period. To that end, Future Energy Oakville (FEO) was established in 2021 as an independent, community-based, not-for-profit organization, and potential funding was available for a sixth year through 2025.

The intent was that FEO would be a community-funded organization, potentially offset by its own revenue generation activities from forward-thinking investors, community sponsors, and partners.

On [November 20, 2023](#), Council approved that future community energy planning and partnerships proceed with and through FEO.

Future Energy Oakville

FEO's mandate is:

“to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy through engagement and collaboration with government, local businesses, the community, and other stakeholders. We will coordinate an Oakville tailored approach to this effort focusing on the roadmap outlined in Oakville’s Community Energy Strategy by providing information and engaging the community with talks, workshops showcasing global best practices, innovative solutions and advocating for policy changes. Our approach will be positive and collaborative, with a focus on achieving measurable outcomes to the community.”

The town has a [Services Agreement](#) with FEO that was first executed in June 2021. The current Services Agreement ends on December 31, 2025.

FEO delegates annually to Council, providing a progress and financial update as per the Services Agreement.

Town’s Role and Commitments under the Community Energy Strategy

Along with a call for community-wide action, the CES defines where the Town can best play a role as one of many key stakeholders, which the town will report on through the Community Energy Strategy Implementation Update on October 21, 2024. These roles include:

- **Convener and Facilitator:** The Town is uniquely positioned to convene and facilitate stakeholders to develop plans, strategies, etc.
- **Policy Maker:** The Town has to ensure that policies, procedures, and by-laws are aligned with the CES vision and goals to, among other things, enable local stakeholders and others to act in the transitioning energy market.
- **Leading by example:** The Town must demonstrate corporate leadership in the community.
- **Economic Development Supporter:** The Town plays a key role in retaining and attracting businesses through the value-added opportunities of achieving the vision and goals of the CES.

- Promoting Energy Literacy and Climate Action: The Town has many opportunities to engage with residents and business owners to promote the benefits of implementing the CES.

COMMENT/OPTIONS:

On October 21, 2024, FEO will deliver a presentation to Council with financial, analytic, and operational data to show its progress in the items listed in the Services Agreement.

Also on October 21, 2024, town staff will provide an update to Council titled Community Energy Strategy Implementation Update, regarding the town's actions to advance priority projects identified in the CES.

CONSIDERATIONS:

(A) PUBLIC

Interested parties in the community have committed significant hours to date to support the setup and establishment of Future Energy Oakville. Community engagement also went into the development of the Community Energy Strategy.

(B) FINANCIAL

The current [Services Agreement](#) between the Town and Future Energy Oakville is for the period November 20, 2023 to December 31, 2025 and outlines the terms of financial contributions from the town to Future Energy Oakville. The original five-year commitment to provide financial and in-kind support, which Council extended by one year, is intended to end in 2025.

(C) IMPACT ON OTHER DEPARTMENTS & USERS

The energy initiatives led by the Town that directly support implementation of the Community Energy Strategy's 2020-2025 priority projects are being spearheaded and supported by several departments including: Corporate Strategy and Government Relations; Facilities and Construction Management; Finance; Legal Services; Municipal Enforcement Services; Oakville Transit; Planning Services; and Transportation and Engineering.

(D) COUNCIL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

This report addresses Council's strategic priorities related to: Environmental Sustainability.

(E) CLIMATE CHANGE/ACTION

The Community Energy Strategy provides the pathway to achieving an ambitious greenhouse gas reduction goal while securing a livable, sustainable, and resilient energy future for Oakville.

APPENDICES:

None

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