

**Infrastructure & Energy Committee
Minutes, January 10, 2022**

Infrastructure & Energy Committee Members present: (On Zoom)

Peter Doyle, Chair, John Solomon, Vice Chair, Kathryn Hautanen, Clay Schofield, Jane Ward, Rob Wilson

Infrastructure & Energy Committee Members absent:

Dr. Paul Canniff

Others in Attendance: (On Zoom)

Councilor Gordon Starr, Town Council Liaison, Cindy Dabkowski, Administrative Assistant.

Call to Order:

Peter Doyle called the January 10, 2022 meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee (IEC) to order at 5:05 PM. The meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee was held remotely to avoid group congregation.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion moved by Jane Ward to approve the minutes of the December 13, 2021 Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting. 2nd by John Solomon six members in attendance voted affirmatively, motion carried.

New Business

Peter Doyle informs committee members that he compiled data and submitted the annual report. The report will eventually be available on the web site.

Peter Doyle opens the floor for nominations of officers. Motion made to nominate Peter Doyle for Chair made by Jane Ward, seconded by John Solomon. Five members vote for Peter Doyle, Peter Doyle abstains.

Peter Doyle is elected Chair. Motion made to nominate Jane Ward for Vice Chair made by Rob Wilson, Seconded by John Solomon. Five members vote for Jane Ward, Jane Ward abstains. Jane Ward is elected Vice Chair.

Videotaped Infrastructure and Energy Committee Meetings

Infrastructure and Energy Committee meetings can be in the same format as town Council Meetings. Does the committee we want to do this? Something members should think about. There are two sides to it. One is that we don't get our message out because nobody knows what we met about.

Old Business

Massachusetts Bottle Bill – Jane Ward

Massachusetts Bottle Bill is a container-deposit legislation dealing with recycling in the United States that originally passed in the state of Massachusetts in 1982 as the Beverage Container Recovery Law. This is a real quick sketch of the 40 years and current efforts are to update it to double the rate to 10 cents per bottle. So many different bottles now that the two state representatives who are proposing it want to include a broader spectrum of containers. Jane Ward included a PowerPoint that has links to the information. Massachusetts had the lowest recycling rate in all the years of the program in 2020. The proposal to go up to a dime has worked in many other states that have similar bills. And to cover all the numerous new types of containers for all the new drinks we can purchase is a good idea. Jane Ward will follow the MA Bottle Bill and at whatever crucial point committee thought was necessary make a proposal to the Town Council. Yeah, that's a good idea. The changes really made a difference when the other states updated their bill. They thought they went from say 60% recycling to 85%. Makes sense that Massachusetts would do that too.

County Wide Climate Action Plan

A Cape Cod Climate Action Plan that sets actionable goals for Cape Cod, within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts framework. Peter Doyle asks for a volunteer to contact Kristy Senatori, Executive Director Cape Cod Commission to request someone give an overview of the plan to the Infrastructure and Energy Committee.

Chatham Net Zero

One of Chatham's projects has been a bylaw requiring all new municipal buildings include a net-zero option in initial plans. Peter Doyle asks for a volunteer to follow and report progress to the Infrastructure and Energy Committee.

Green Community,

Peter Doyle explains that the Green Communities application did not pass vote with Town Council. Peter Doyle suggests members check out the town council video as to how the vote went. It was a tie vote. The Town Council directed the town manager to proceed with criteria number three and four in the In the Green Communities application basically to told him to move forward with the vehicle policy and the energy reduction plan. It's great, we have to do it now without the without the money from Green Communities. The vehicle policy is the Town adopts a policy to reduce the miles per gallon of small vehicles that they either lease or buy. This Town has about 200 vehicles, most of them are pickup trucks and snowplows that do not apply and thus we're only talking about 40-45 vehicles. As leases come up or if new purchase of a vehicle, want to increase the miles per gallon by two to three miles per gallon. Try to buy electric vehicles when can. Electric vehicles are on the acceptable list. David Anthony could tell us how Town is doing with vehicle policy. Criteria four is the energy reduction plan, completed with a \$10,000 grant from Cape Light Compact, and Margaret Song, audited 65 buildings in town, most of them school buildings, they wrote a detailed plan for the next five years on how to reduce the municipal energy use by 20%. That plan was approved by the Town Council. Infrastructure and Energy Committee may want to make sure that it moves forward.

Sustainability Position

Gordon Starr will look into the next steps and report back to the committee.

Recycling Subcommittee,

Subcommittee met with Daniel Santos and P J Kelliher they agreed to utilize a portion of the recycling grant received to encourage food waste composting. Recycling subcommittee completed draft of an informational flyer and a customer survey. One thing like to do is find some funding to provide people with a starter kit for collecting food waste at home. The Transfer Station has some plastic totes. Would like to give people some compostable bag liners to make the process an easier and cleaner. Draft recycling area signage to assist people with recycling and composting food waste. Subcommittee wants to add something about food waste collection on the web page.

Native Plant bylaw

Somerville has passed a native planting ordinance that establishes minimum requirements for native plants and trees to be planted in city-owned parks, open spaces and streets. Does the Infrastructure and Energy Committee want to send a message to the town Council supporting a native plant by law for the Town of Barnstable? Committee could write out an ordinance, Gordon Starr could send to legal department for review. Peter Doyle will contact Department of Public Works to find out if this is already in place.

Jane Ward states that with road work occurring it is a good time to consider adding sidewalks and bike paths. It is suggested that a representative from Department of Public Works attend a future meeting of the infrastructure and Energy Committee to discuss the Comprehensive Waste Water Management Plan road work that is happening and the plans to add sidewalks, bike paths, and widen streets.

Adjourn

Peter Doyle asks for a motion to adjourn meeting. **Motion** moved Rob Wilson to adjourn the meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee at 6:07 PM, 2nd by Dr. Paul Canniff; six members in attendance voted affirmatively.

Next Meeting: January 10, 2022 5:00PM | Remote Zoom Meeting

Upcoming Meeting: January 24, 2022 February 14, 2022 February 28, 2022

Documents and Exhibits

Handout 1: Agenda, January 10, 2022

Handout 2: Draft Infrastructure and Energy Committee Minutes December 13, 2021

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Dabkowski