

**Infrastructure & Energy Committee
Minutes, January 24, 2022**

Infrastructure & Energy Committee Members present: (On Zoom)

Peter Doyle, Chair, Jane Ward, Vice Chair, Dr. Paul Canniff, Kathryn Hautanen, Rob Wilson

Infrastructure & Energy Committee Members absent:

B. Clay Schofield, John Solomon

Others in Attendance: (On Zoom)

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

Call to Order:

Peter Doyle called the January 24, 2022 meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee (IEC) to order at 5:06 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 January 10, 2022 Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting. 2nd by Rob Wilson five members in attendance voted affirmatively, motion carried.

New Business

Peter Doyle suggests guest speakers the committee members may want to invite. The first one would be the complete streets. The MassDOT Complete Streets Funding Program provides technical assistance and construction funding to eligible municipalities. Eligible municipalities must pass a Complete Streets Policy and develop a Prioritization Plan. The idea is that if you're widening or repaving roads, should also make sure that you're making it safe for pedestrians to cross the street there's good crosswalks, there's good lighting and that is safe for cyclists. Safe for people with wheelchairs or walkers it's supposed to be make the streets safe for everyone. That's the complete part of it. Peter Doyle attended a Zoom meeting with the Cape Cod Commission Complete Streets lead person was assisting town of Falmouth Complete Streets committee with their application to the state. Gordon Starr states the Planning Department is in the process of starting Complete Streets application. They're in the process of the first couple of months. You have to do a visioning with the whole town and figure out what will be the priorities. Town could get up to \$ 400,000 match federal money. Peter Doyle sent an email to Director Santos to have one of his staff come in and enlighten Infrastructure and energy Committee. Infrastructure and Energy Committee members request a speaker from Department of Public Works come and explain to them the improvements planned in terms of sidewalks and crossings and bicycle paths as part of the Vineyard Wind Project. Jane Ward expresses concern with Roads being dug up for the Comprehensive Waste Water Management Program (CWMP) it is hoped that will include safety measures when repaved. Mr. Doyle will contact Department of Public Works to request someone come in and tell the members what safety measures will be included when the road is repaved.

The second option for a guest speaker is to invite the Cape Light Compact in and ask them where they are with their new solar program. On Friday, February 18, 2022 at 10 a.m., Cape Light Compact Administrator Maggie Downey will present the 2022-2024 Energy Efficiency Plan. This plan demonstrates how program administrators will provide Massachusetts customers the tools necessary to maintain the Commonwealth's leadership position tackling the critical need for reductions in greenhouse gas emissions. Jane Ward will check that out and send the Zoom details.

The third option for possible guest speakers is The Cape Cod Commission. The Cape Cod Commission approved the region's first-ever climate action plan during its July 22, 2021 meeting. The Cape Cod Climate Action Plan sets actionable goals for Cape Cod, within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts framework. It is intended to foster collaborative, targeted action to address climate change in measurable ways. The plan identifies strategies

and actions the region can take to mitigate the Cape's contributions to climate change and adapt to its impacts. It would be interesting to hear what their perspective is for the whole region.

Peter Doyle suggests to the committee it would be interesting to take a tour of the Yarmouth transfer station to see what they do over there.

Videotaped Infrastructure and Energy Committee Meetings

Infrastructure and Energy Committee meetings can be videotaped - in the same format as Town Council Meetings. Does the committee 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. Committee members ask how much data there is to find out how many are watching the videotaped meetings.

Old Business

Peter Doyle would like to assign tasks to each member. Thought is that each member could follow an issue of interest to the Infrastructure and Energy Committee and report on the status to the full committee.

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. 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.

Chatham Net Zero - Kathryn Hautanen

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.

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. Gordon Starr suggests a check in with the Town of Barnstable Structures and Grounds Division to see if this policy already in place. Peter Doyle will contact Department of Public Works to find out if this is already in place.

Sustainability Position

Gordon Starr sent letter of recommendation to the President and Vice President to the Town Council. This is an ongoing discussion. Gordon Starr will look into the next steps and report back to the committee.

Recycling Subcommittee,

Subcommittee would like 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.

Peter Doyle continues to work on a "What Can I Do" section to add to the Infrastructure and Energy Committee web page. Everyone can help limit climate change. From the way we travel, to the electricity we use and the food we eat, we can make a difference. Peter Doyle suggests starting with list of reference books such as Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming Paperback – April 18, 2017 and

Cooler Smarter: Practical Steps for Low-Carbon Living Paperback – April 25, 2012. Perter Doyle asks members to send library suggestions to put together this list.

Adjourn

Peter Doyle asks for a motion to adjourn meeting. **Motion** moved Kathryn Hautanen to adjourn the meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee at 6:07 PM, 2nd by Jane Ward; five members in attendance voted affirmatively.

Next Meeting: February 14, 2022 5:00PM | Remote Zoom Meeting

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

Documents and Exhibits

Handout 1: Agenda, January 24, 2022

Handout 2: Draft Infrastructure and Energy Committee Minutes January 10, 2022

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Dabkowski