

Meeting minutes *(approved 3/10/21, 5-0-0)*

Energy and Climate Committee

February 2, 2021 9:00 a.m. via Zoom

Members Present: Ellen Tohn, Anne Harris, Bill Huss, Harvey Michaels, Tom Sciacca

Associate members: John Harper, Kaat Vander Straeten, Michael Kanarek

Ex Officio member: Ben Keefe

Also present: Carol Martin, Finance Committee; Lea Anderson, Selectman; Seath Crandall, Management Analyst; Michael Delman, Resident, Warrant Article Petitioner

*In compliance with the revised Open Meeting Law requirements, this meeting was live streamed via Zoom.

Call to Order by Chair: At 9:05 am the meeting was called to order by E. Tohn upon the presence of a quorum via Zoom.

Discuss Petitioner Warrant: Resolution Recognizing the Climate Emergency

Michael Delman reviewed the changes made to the draft resolution based on the previous meeting's discussion. The most significant changes are first, the emissions reduction goal has been changed to at least 50% and aspirationally 75% of 1990 baseline. Second, the structure has been changed so that the Board of Selectmen direct the Energy and Climate Committee to hold a meeting to encourage municipal participation and to convene a diverse group of Wayland representatives to develop a 10-year climate action plan by the following year's Town meeting.

L. Anderson encouraged the Committee to develop an FAQ sheet describing the impacts a plan might have on residents and if there would be any costs. C. Martin suggests the Committee address in comments the types of actions a plan might include.

Motion: TS moved, seconded by AH: The Committee support the article as written subject to minor modifications suggested at this meeting and any additional modifications suggested by Town Counsel. Roll Call Vote: YEA: T. Sciacca, A. Harris, H. Michaels, E. Tohn. ABSTAIN: none. NAY: none. Adopted 4-0.

Community Choice Aggregation (CCA)

Members discuss a name change in the article to "Community Choice Electricity". The Board of Selectmen must approve this change at the Committee's request. ET will attend the next BoS meeting to do so.

ET has created a fact sheet which members can review. Public meetings should be held in April. ET can reserve evenings for those in February. L. Anderson notes the Board of Selectmen is considering holding public forums before Town Meeting that would include presenters of several warrant articles, so we should coordinate with the BoS.

Solar on Loker Roof

B. Keefe and L. Miller continue review of proposals from both installers. Committee encourages including parking lot canopies in the project. B. Keefe responds the roof is the priority, but the article allows for canopies as well.

C. Anderson suggests reaching out to the School Committee to get on a future meeting agenda. L. Anderson suggests waiting until the Board of Selectmen has reviewed.

Public Buildings Director Updates: Middle School Resiliency Project Closeout

Project closeout must be completed in order for the Town to receive grant compensation for expenditures. The State also required paperwork to be completed by December 2020. B. Keefe is working with Sasha Shyduroff of MAPC to confirm required documents. He will continue to gather information on vendors used during the project and invoices and proof of payment for each.

Multi-town Comments on State Interim Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2030

Natick and Westboro have composed a letter to the State Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs with input from other towns to comment on the state plan.

The town requests are for the plan to:

1. Establish a Municipal Version of the GWSA Implementation Advisory Committee.
2. Increase Funding for Municipal Climate Action
3. Update the Existing Stretch Code – Do Not Require Municipalities to Opt-In to Adopt a New Code
4. Align Funding for Public Buildings with Net Zero Goals
5. Provide Resources to Accelerate Electrification Locally
6. Increase Access to Emissions Data

In addition, a letter to Governor Baker encouraging him to sign the *Next Generation Roadmap: An Act Creating a Next Generation Roadmap for the Massachusetts Climate Policy* (Bill S.2995) is being circulated by Brookline and has been signed by sustainability staff and committee members from 48 towns. The Committee requests that the Board of Selectmen consider signing both of these letters on behalf of Wayland.

Motion: AH moved, seconded by TS, the Committee submits the municipal letters regarding the state climate plan being circulated by Natick and Westborough and a second by Brookline to the Board of Selectmen with the request they sign on behalf of the town of Wayland. Roll Call Vote: YEA: T. Sciacca, A. Harris, H. Michaels, E. Tohn. ABSTAIN: none. NAY: none. Adopted 4-0.

Reports

EnergizeWayland: The group continues to reach out to Wayland residents with the goal of having 1000 households take action on climate change as well as organize at least one event per month. They are using software that will allow them to track and engage residents more effectively. They are requesting a grant from the Town of \$400 for the annual fee.

Committee discussion points:

- The donation would demonstrate the town's commitment to addressing climate change.
- Can the Town use taxpayer money to give to a non-profit?
- This might be something to be budgeted for, or should better be paid through fundraising.
- Perhaps there is another way the Town could make a symbolic gesture.
- This might fit into a larger Town climate plan, as is described in the Town Meeting article resolution to declare a climate emergency. The Town will likely want to work with organizations like EnergizeWayland as well as other grassroots groups. Any funds requested to support outreach efforts should probably be looked at in total, rather than a one-time expense.
- How will the connection between the Town and its residents work in this process?

Summary: The Committee is not comfortable making a decision on this issue at this stage.

Bill Huss joins the meeting.

Miscellaneous:

1. Next meeting scheduled for 3/10/21, 9 am - 11 am
2. AH moves, seconded by TS, the Committee approve meeting minutes from 1/13/21. Roll Call Vote:
YEA: T. Sciacca, A. Harris, B. Huss, H. Michaels, E. Tohn. NAY: none. ABSTAIN: none. Adopted 5-0.

Adjourn: E. Tohn moves that we adjourn. Second: A. Harris. Roll Call Vote: YEA: T. Sciacca, A. Harris, B. Huss, H. Michaels, E. Tohn. NAY: none. ABSTAIN: none. Adjourned 11:10 am

Minutes taken by A. Harris.