

Meeting minutes (approved 2/2/2021 4-0)
Energy and Climate Committee
January 13, 2021 9:00a.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, Michael Delman, Resident, Warrant Article Petitioner; Sasha Shyduroff, Clean Energy and Climate Planner, MAPC

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

Discuss Petitioner Warrant: Resolution Recognizing the Climate Emergency

Michael Delman reviewed the urgent problem of the climate emergency and the need for the town to recognize and mobilize to address it. The resolution calls for the Town to commit to establishing a task force charged with developing a Climate Mobilization Action Plan to achieve a percentage emissions reduction goal. (See draft warrant article included with meeting agenda for details.) The Committee discussed how the task force could be structured and supervised. It would likely come under the auspices of the Energy and Climate Committee and include some or all Committee members. The Committee and Mr. Delman discussed the percentage admissions reduction and what might be optimal.

Motion: ET moved, seconded by HM: The Committee support the article as written with the following two suggested changes:

1) In Paragraph 7, the phrase "BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town administration shall create a Climate Emergency Mobilization Task Force composed of members of The Energy and Climate Committee and other residents to:" be changed to:

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town administration shall create a Climate Emergency Mobilization Task Force under the auspices of The Energy and Climate Committee composed of Committee members and other residents, and offering opportunity for public input with one to two public meetings, to:"

2) In Paragraph 7, the phrase "develop a 10-year Climate Mobilization Action Plan for Wayland to achieve the above goal of an 85% reduction of community-wide greenhouse gas emissions from its current levels by 2030" be changed to:

"develop a 10-year Climate Mobilization Action Plan for Wayland to achieve the above goal of at least a 50% reduction up to the full measure of its generation of community-wide greenhouse gas emissions from its current levels by 2030"

Roll Call Vote: YEA: T. Sciacca, A. Harris, B. Huss, H. Michaels, E. Tohn. ABSTAIN: none. NAY: none.
5 Yea - 0 Nay.

Motion: ET moved, seconded by AH: The Committee support the article as written. Roll Call Vote: YEA: T. Sciacca, A. Harris NAY: B. Huss, H. Michaels, E. Tohn. ABSTAIN: none. Final vote: 2 Yea -3 Nay.

Solar on Loker Roof: Town Administrator L. Miller has reviewed and revised the Warrant Article text to insure it does not specify a particular vendor but allows the Town to move forward with their investigation of a Power Purchase Agreement.

E. Tohn moved, seconded by A. Harris, The Committee support the Loker Elementary School Solar Agreement article as presented in the Board of Selectmen packet from their January 4, 2020 meeting. Roll Call Vote: YEA: T. Sciacca, A. Harris, B. Huss, H. Michaels, E. Tohn. NAY: none. ABSTAIN: none. Adopted 5-0.

B. Keefe and L. Miller are discussing proposals from both installors, with whom the Town may contract through prior procurement processes. A decision will be made before Town Meeting.

Committee member asks if we should approach other Committees for support? L. Anderson notes FinCom will typically do that, but suggests we discuss with the School Committee. J. Harper will contact them.

Public Buildings Director Updates: B. Keefe has signed contracts with Guardian Energy to begin two Green Communities Grant-funded projects:

1. A retrocommissioning study at the High School and
2. An LED lighting installation at the Middle School

Town Building HVAC project continues.

Community Choice Aggregation (CCA): The Board of Selectmen requested the Committee vote to include the revised article in the 2021 Warrant.

E. Tohn moved, seconded by B. Huss, that the Committee support the CCA warrant article as presented in the Board of Selectmen packet from their January 4, 2020 meeting. Roll Call Vote: YEA: T. Sciacca, A. Harris, B. Huss, H. Michaels, E. Tohn. ABSTAIN: none. NAY: none. Adopted 5-0.

Committee member notes Eversource basic service appears to be 50% carbon free already. If the goal is to reduce or eliminate carbon emissions, it may not matter if the renewable energy offered to residents is from new, local sources (Class 1 RPS), but rather from any non-carbon renewable source. This can be explored further if the article passes and the Town moves forward.

L. Anderson recommends we have an FAQ document for both the Loker Solar and CCA articles.

Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) Energy Analysis for Wayland: Sasha Shuyduroff, Clean Energy and Climate Planner, has been reviewing Wayland's energy data to assist in reducing municipal energy use. She used information from Wayland's Green Communities Annual Reports and MassEnergyInsight energy analysis software, and presented preliminary data along with a graph showing Energy Use Intensity (EUI) in Wayland buildings.

Discussion points:

- Buildings with the highest EUI should be the ones we concentrate on.
- Building EUIs can be compared with those from other towns.
- Committee would like to concentrate on Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHGs) rather than just energy efficiency.

- Could Wayland's solar production be included as a carbon offset? And does Ameresco own these RECs or does Wayland?
- Wayland's Baldwin Pond water treatment plant was not included in MEI as it was not completed before baseline year of FY2010. This would likely have some energy saving opportunities.

Actions:

- Sasha will look into converting energy use to GHGs.
- A. Harris will send Sasha the full list of efficiency measures from Wayland's ESCO project.
- A. Harris will work with Sasha to include Baldwin Pond energy use.
- Sasha will focus further efforts on the following Wayland buildings with the highest EUIs: the new DPW building, all 3 elementary schools, the Town Building, Middle School and Public Safety Building.

Sustainability Director: B. Huss drafted a two-page description of desired job responsibilities for a part-time sustainability director. Discussion passed over to a future meeting.

Electric buses: T. Sciacca wrote a draft memo on the status of and potential for electric buses (attached to agenda). E. Tohn moved, seconded by T. Sciacca, that A. Harris send memo to the Town Administrator, copying the School Committee and Board of Selectmen. Roll Call Vote: YEA: T. Sciacca, A. Harris, B. Huss, H. Michaels, E. Tohn. ABSTAIN: none. NAY: none. Adopted 5-0.

Reports: Passed over to future meeting.

Miscellaneous:

1. Schedule next meeting: 2/2/2021, 9 am - 11 am
2. Approve meeting minutes from 12/9/2020. E. Tohn moves that we accept minutes. Second: H. Michaels. Roll Call Vote: YEA: T. Sciacca, A. Harris, B. Huss, H. Michaels, E. Tohn. NAY: none. ABSTAIN: none. Approved 5-0.
3. Many members still having trouble with Town emails that are not being resolved by IT.

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. Adopted 5-0.

Minutes taken by A. Harris.