

**Infrastructure & Energy Committee
Minutes, April 12, 2021**

Infrastructure & Energy Committee Members present: (Present on Zoom)
Peter Doyle, Chair, John Solomon, Rob Wilson, Dr. Paul Canniff

Infrastructure & Energy Committee Members Not Present: (Present on Zoom)
Derek Vannier

Peter Doyle, Chair, John Solomon, Rob Wilson, Dr. Paul Canniff Others in Attendance:
(On Zoom) Gordon Starr Town Council Liaison; Jane Ward, Citizen; Cindy Dabkowski,
Administrative Assistant.

Call to Order:

Peter Doyle called the April 26, 2021 meeting of the Infrastructure & Energy Committee (IEC) to order at 5:30 PM. The meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee was held remotely to avoid group congregation.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion moved by John Solomon to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2021 Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting. 2nd by Dr. Paul Canniff four members in attendance voted affirmatively, motion carried.

Motion moved by John Solomon to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2021 Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting. 2nd by Dr. Paul Canniff four members in attendance voted affirmatively, motion carried.

Old Business:

Peter Doyle has met with Daniel Santos, P.E., and Director of Department of Public Works (DPW). He is receptive to addressing signage issues at Transfer Station. Peter Doyle suggests it may be best for Recycling sub-committee to prepare templates for entire membership to review and approve.

Green Communities is still on the table. Gordon Starr agrees to reach out to David Anthony to get a status update. Once building audits complete committee can work on an Energy Reduction Plan (ERP)

John Solomon reports for the recycling subcommittee. The recycling subcommittee would like to work with staff at the Transfer Station to determine what can be done to make recycling more economical, more environmentally beneficial, and perhaps make for a better experience for our town residents. At the April 5, 2021 recycling subcommittee meeting developed a list they would like Peter Doyle to take to Mr. Santos and see if he thinks this is something we could move forward with. Items the subcommittee suggests to work on improving signage, informational pamphlet hand out when sell stickers, and promotion of composting. See John Solomon's email write up of recycling subcommittee meeting.

Committee members discussed removing food waste from the solid waste stream. John Solomon thought that it could be our main focus, it presents a great opportunity because it can it can save the Town substantial amount of money in tipping fees if we can remove food waste from the waste stream. Food waste produces a useful product of compost Town could sell. According to information from the Environmental Protection Agency's website the methane produced by landfills as a result of varied food waste is the greenhouse gas equivalent of 20 million cars. The amount of greenhouse gas that comes

from varied food waste in a year is the same amount that 20 million cars would produce for in one year of driving. The issue is that when you burry food it decomposes anaerobically, instead of producing carbon dioxide, it produces methane, because there's no oxygen. Methane is a very potent greenhouse gas. There is a substantial environmental benefit to removing food waste from the waste stream. But unlike so many other environmental benefits, instead of an economic cost, there's an economic gain from doing it. Members talk about Hamilton and Martha's Vineyard communities that are removing food waste from the waste stream

Peter Doyle encourages members to think about removing food waste from waste stream the goal here being to beat the state mandate. It's easier that way.

Peter Doyle would like to keep Dan Santos posted on where the Committee is focusing efforts and what John Solomon has put together is good. Peter Doyle would get Dan Santos general view and he can comment before more work is done. Cindy can set up an appointment for Peter Doyle and Daniel Santos to meet.

Peter Doyle informs members that Kari Parcels moved on no longer with Barnstable County. Peter Doyle reminds members of a composting seminar for April 21, 2021 if you didn't get that notice, let me know and I'll send it along.

Peter Doyle proposes increasing IEC visibility. Peter suggests one of the things that we can do is we can utilize our website, and I've went through the websites of the various committees, there's 40 of them out there so there's a lot of competition for viewing time if you want to call it that. Peter Doyle suggests putting up notices. One of the thought is that composting is an excellent topic. Peter Doyle asks members to email him your suggestions for the web site such as explanation as to why composting works, or the benefit of composting. Give people a sense that there is something we can do to help save the environment.

Peter Doyle thought the Committee could use the libraries. Libraries put out a bulletin every once in a while. Committee could write about different things we can do such as composting. Peter will be promoting the idea that a committee member form each village, go to their library and ask if the Infrastructure and Energy Committees could submit information about what they are working on for publication in the library bulletin. That way gives IEC notoriety, and it would promote our cause.

Green Communities the MassEnergyIndex (MEI) underway. June was the deadline for the building commissioner to come up with something. And so we're just sort of waiting for that to go along. Gordon Starr thought the Building Commissioner was aiming to get done by the end of April.

Peter Doyle suggests that the Infrastructure and Energy Committee needs subcommittees such as climate change subcommittee, solar subcommittee, water resource subcommittee, so if anybody is interested please send email to Petr Doyle. Those are possibilities or you can dream up your own.

Next Meeting:

May 10, 2021 5:00PM | Department of Public Works | Remote Zoom Meeting

Upcoming Meeting:

May 24, 2021, June 14, 2021, June 28, 2021.

Adjourn

Motion moved by Rob Wilson to adjourn the meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee at 6:02 PM, 2nd by John Solomon; four members in attendance voted affirmatively, motion carried.

Documents and Exhibits

Handout 1: Agenda, April 26, 2021

Handout 2: Draft Infrastructure and Energy Committee Minutes April 12, 2021

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Dabkowski