

**Infrastructure & Energy Committee
Minutes, August 22, 2022**

Infrastructure & Energy Committee Members present: (On Zoom)

Peter Doyle, Chair, John Solomon, Kathryn Hautanen, Rob Wilson

Infrastructure & Energy Committee Members absent:

Jane Ward

Others in Attendance: (On Zoom)

Gordon Starr, Councilor, Cindy Dabkowski, Administrative Assistant, Barry Sheingold, Citizen

Call to Order:

Peter Doyle, Chair called the August 22, 2022 meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee (IEC) to order at 5:03 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 28, 2022 Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting. 2nd by Rob Wilson four members in attendance voted affirmatively, motion carried.

Motion moved by John Solomon to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2022 Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting. 2nd by Kathryn Hautanen four members in attendance voted affirmatively, motion carried.

Motion moved by John Solomon to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2022 Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting. 2nd by Rob Wilson four members in attendance voted affirmatively, motion carried.

Peter Doyle recognizes guest Barry Sheingold, citizen wanted to just check in with us. Barry Sheingold says he is a resident of the town and was interested in what your committee was doing.

Peter Doyle asks for a motion as to whether committee wants to have these meetings videotaped and recorded.

John Solomon says he finds this to be a difficult question but last time he came out in favor of recording the meeting so he is going to continue with that position. Peter Doyle asks do we have a guess. We have a motion to approve the reading the means to be videotaping recorded and we have a second

Rob Wilson makes a motion to record the meetings of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee going forward. John Solomon second committee discussion Infrastructure and Energy Committee members discuss how to hold meeting moving forward. Peter Doyle states meetings

would probably be a zoom going forward because like to make it available for people to dial in remotely. And for people that can't get to there by five o'clock. Kathryn Hautanen points out that if people wanted to attend meeting the Zoom is publicly available and we make minutes available and I feel like having every word recorded will stifle people stating their opinions and is uneasy thinking people could take the audio and do something with it.

John Solomon think that is a good point. John Solomon is convinced may not want to post video recording of meetings. Kathryn Hautanen states she doesn't like her voice being recorded out there when somebody could take that audio and reuse it somewhere. The concern would be somebody could take a little snippet out of context. The town council is recorded they're not having that problem. And they are much more politically influential than us. Absolutely, and, and to that point, we sometimes have kind of a free flowing discussion, where we're just throwing around ideas. Whereas when the town council is addressing an issue, people are coming into it. You know, with well thought out positions. Does anyone know, do most committees recorded or not? Other committees that are advisory to the town council like Sandy Neck Shellfish committee. Committee sort of in flux here at the moment, some meetings are still on Zoom and probably being recorded somewhere on Zoom. Kathryn Hautanen agrees research the website and see what committees are posting recordings. Peter Doyle agrees to ask the leadership what their thoughts are.

Peter Doyle announces Clay Scholfield and Paul Canniff both resigned. So we're down to five members.

Peter Doyle sent around his synopsis of the annual report. Only reply from Katherine Hautanen. If members have any comments to add to the report that was sent around, let Peter Doyle know as soon as possible.

Peter Doyle asks the committee is there an issue that would like to see the committee pursue? Green Communities issue is at rest for the time being. The sustainability position is in progress, the compost is in progress. The subcommittee got a flyer out its pretty good. They're moving on.

The Composting rack card has been printed and is with the Transfer Station now.

John Solomon will pick some up and drive around to libraries.

John Solomon reports the next step for the recycling subcommittee is to work on commercial food waste, and that depends a lot on Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). This fall DEP is reducing the threshold to a half ton. John Solomon would like to see what is being done to publicize and enforce. What is being done to inform corporate franchises like McDonald's Burger King, and Dunkin Donuts? Don't know the answer. It is suggested to list restaurants in town are part of some larger chain and then address new regulations at the headquarters level rather than at the local franchise level.

Peter Doyle speaks about license plate recognition software to verify permit holders so that as people go through, they can check to make sure everybody's got about a sticker

Climate Change Position Peter Doyle checked in with David Anthony. They have 85 applicants. Members agree that is really good.

Cape Light Compact Peter Doyle asks committee members if anyone would like to champion this committee. Is there anybody that would like to be the liaison between this committee and Cape Light Compact. It is one meeting a month. I am the town's alternate at this point. Interest is in how much savings, how many people they serving, and how many houses they service what they think they've saved over the years. Kind of keeping an eye on them. Town of Barnstable we should get the biggest share of their efforts. Get information on how many energy audits have been done and how many people have taken advantage of savings.

Electric Motor Lawn Mower Rob Wilson would like to see the Town change to electric Lawn Mowers as they replace the equipment. There's several divisions that would purchase lawn mowers Rob Wilson will reach out to the foreman's or the divisions that would be involved in purchasing lawn equipment? May not want electric motor because they run so long, such big areas to mow batteries run out after a while.

Large-Scale Composter Installations Turn Waste into Resource in Lake Placid New York. Peter Doyle was going to go take a look. I have a family camp up in that area. Tie in with the county state effort to research where and how to locate compost collection centers in town.

Peter Doyle informs members of a new installation of a Pollinator Pathway along the one mile long Main Street in Hyannis. Consisting of 140 planters with over 10 varieties of Native American pollinator plants, the reasoning of the effort is to enhance the natural beauty of Main Street, Hyannis- the capital of Cape Cod, and become an actual pathway for our ever important local pollinators. The organization, Pollinator Pathway Cape Cod, leads the efforts in the region to increase pollinator friendly habitats and food sources for bees, butterflies, hummingbirds and other pollinating insects and wildlife across Cape Cod.

Peter Doyle notes that Orleans plans to petition the state legislature for a town-specific rule that will prohibit the application of fertilizer anywhere in town except on a farm. If the legislature and voters agree, Orleans would be the first town on Cape Cod to prohibit fertilizing. Nantucket is ahead in having filed similar legislation already. Adding nitrogen or phosphorus to Cape waters through runoff and groundwater after fertilizers are applied can lead to algal blooms limiting light penetration and consuming oxygen as the algae dies and decays. That can result in eutrophic conditions and even "dead zones" near the bottom and fish kills. Blue green algae, also known as cyanobacteria, may produce toxins in freshwater, severely limiting the use of those ponds.

Peter Doyle asks if anybody could follow up on this topic. It may be interesting to follow. If they are successful, we could follow in

One type of household packaging that still creates confusion when it comes to recycling is multilayer packaging. This type of packaging includes milk or juice cartons or boxes, or soup containers. As with many items reported as recyclable, it is not an easy process. The mechanical recycling process used by many material recovery facilities (MRF's) struggles with these

multilayer materials. The process depends on local facilities having the capability to separate these types of materials first and the availability of processing plants. Generally issues are that manufacturers like to label their packaging as recyclable but that's kind of hype. No one's actually doing it. John Solomon says this is his general understanding was not based on a lot of research is that there isn't there is not a practical feasible way to do that. A lot of a lot of plastic is theoretically recycled, but as a practical matter, doesn't get recycled because it's not economically feasible. There's so many different types of plastic and to collect enough of the same type is really more of an idea not a practice. There are states that are working on producer responsibility, legislation to require the manufacturers to bear the burden of disposing of or finding ways to recycle the packaging that they sell their products.

Peter Doyle asks for a Motion to adjourn the August 22, 2022 meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee . John Solomon makes a motion to adjourn the August 22, 2022 Infrastructure and Energy Committee at 5:47 PM, Kathryn Hautanen Second. Four members in attendance voted affirmatively.

Next Meeting: September 12, 2022 5:00PM | Remote Zoom Meeting

Upcoming Meeting: October 24, 2022 November 14, 2022, November 28, 2022, December 12, 2022

Documents and Exhibits

Handout 1: Agenda, August 22, 2022

Handout 2: Draft Infrastructure and Energy Committee Minutes March 28, 2022

Handout 3: Draft Infrastructure and Energy Committee Minutes April 11, 2022

Handout 4: Draft Infrastructure and Energy Committee Minutes April 25, 2022

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Dabkowski