

**Infrastructure & Energy Committee**  
**DRAFT Minutes**  
**May 8, 2023**

**Infrastructure & Energy Committee Members present: (On Zoom)**

Rob Wilson, Chair; Jane Ward, Vice Chair, Peter Doyle, Barry Sheingold, John Solomon

**Infrastructure & Energy Committee Members absent: John Solomon**

**Others in Attendance: (On Zoom)**

Gordon Starr, Town Councilor; David W. Anthony, Insurance and Asset Coordinator; Sean Hogan, Environmental Sustainability Manager; Cindy Dabkowski, Administrative Assistant,

**Call to Order:**

Rob Wilson, Chair called the May 8, 2023 meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee (IEC) to order at 5:05 PM. The meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee was held remotely.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Motion moved by John Solomon to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2023 Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting. 2nd by Jane Ward, four members in attendance voted affirmatively, motion carried. (Peter Doyle was not present for vote)

**New Business**

David Anthony introduces Sean Hogan. Sean Hogan joined the Asset Management Division of the Town Manager's Office as the Environmental Sustainability Manager November 14, 2022. Shawn represents the town's commitment to moving forward to have someone on staff who can be the point person to address issues as they start to come forward. It is important to remember that his role is very municipal in its sense that while there is outreach to the community, it is really a key town position to be able to advise the town manager and staff as to operational issues. It is a very broad area that he is going to be responsible for but at the same time rolling out the town managers initiatives on green vehicles on electric vehicle charging stations. He will be getting involved in the capital improvement plan process, which is something that starts in September, where all the departments submit their capital improvement plan requests to the tune of \$200 million and with limited amount of money, somewhat limited to around \$50 million. Taking into account how there could be for example buildings sited to allow for solar on the roof or the potential to connect grants or heat pumps into the design of a building.

Sean Hogan introduces himself. Sean Hogan tells a story of how he came to appreciate how integrally connected human economies are with their environments and how when one drives the other drives when one fails the other fails. Sean Hogan has a bachelor's degree in economics, a bachelor of arts in earth sciences, melding those two interests, and then a master's in urban planning and international affairs.

Jane Ward asks "Sean, where did you get your training? What schools did you get your training?"

Sean Hogan replies “My undergraduate University New Hampshire, Tufts for my graduate work.”

Sean Hogan tells the committee that he has been working trying to rationalize energy accounts. Every department keeps their own energy account; they have their own Excel spreadsheets. Sean is trying to clean them up and get them all into MassEnergyInsight.

Jane Ward explains that she would like the Infrastructure and energy Committee to continue efforts towards Green Community status for the Town of Barnstable. David Anthony gives some highlights in progress the Town has made towards becoming a greener community. David Anthony explains the Town has had some champions at the right level at the right time. Who went and did an awful lot of stuff towards a green community. The Town was recognized in 2008 by the state with a leading by example award because of all the good work that was done. Work that was done saved municipal operations and budgets money. So as we continue to roll forward, what we've continued to see while taking several swings and misses at the actual green communities' designation, we've actually seen things like more solar on top of schools we've seen the solar at the airport. We've seen a lot of projects that were wrapped up with subsidies from the Cape Light Compact. We've seen other grants that have come on board to try to help save energy and we've seen a downsizing and actual physical plants, particularly in the schools when they closed five schools, so that there was less energy being consumed. We've seen some departments that have gone to hybrid or electric only cars because operationally it made sense. And all of this is kind of happening in the background by people who are individual champions, of trying to make government more efficient, and make it greener.

The group discusses a pamphlet that was developed as an overview of all of the stuff that was done in a nice little presentable package that could be handed out. Jane Ward tells the group that it really was a wonderful pamphlet. Jane Ward suggests bragging about accomplishments on an ongoing basis.

Committee members ask question about citing electric vehicle charging stations is there going to be a public process? Can the Infrastructure and energy Committee help? Sean Hogan replies there's no public process yet. There's not a lot of data on where people want electric vehicle chargers right now kind of anecdotal but you have to start somewhere. Sean's initial instinct was to expand into the areas where there are already electric vehicle chargers. Town hall chargers are usually well competed over. There is probably enough demand there for additional charging stations and same thing for the high school and North Street parking lot. I've also heard some desire for some more chargers on the other end of North Street closer to where the shopping is. Committee members discuss Town regulations requiring

Committee members discuss Cape Cod Electric Vehicle Expo and Test Drive Event coming to Hyannis Transportation Center June 3, 2023. Members suggest Sean Hogan attend.

Committee members ask “have any of the solar parking canopies been used to charge electric vehicle chargers or is that undependable? Sean Hogan describes the solar canopy supplies the building and runs meter backwards academically you can say that the solar is charging the

electric vehicle chargers but any one moment it could be the grid. Solar without battery storage is tricky.

David Anthony tells committee members about Cape Light Compact targeting one hundred houses for a combination of solar battery, heat pump installation, primarily targeting low income houses where the fossil fuel furnace or boiler has to be removed as part of the process. The idea is that solar will trickle charge the batteries and electrically the heat pumps will run and because The Power Formula for Cape Light Compact, gets greener each year through its class one renewable portfolio standard, that actually electricity that flows from the grid gets cleaner and cleaner and greener and greener. So what we're seeing is kind of this shift back towards electrification. Which, if anybody remembers years ago, they were talking about electricity being so cheap; they weren't even going to meter it. And then everybody had to get off of electricity because you know, it's too expensive. Even now, while it's really expensive, the actual grid that we're pulling from gets greener and greener because of the amount of renewables that go in and because of the renewable energy credits that have to be purchased by distribution companies. There's a there's a formula that's coming along, have to be patient to a degree to try to have all of the elements catch up. What are we going to do with all of the gas stations when we don't need them anymore? What's going to happen to the infrastructure, and there's going to be a 20 year period where we have electric vehicles and gas vehicles on the road at the same time and you have to service both. Eventually going to run into a situation where there are electric vehicle chargers everywhere. And there are just a few gas stations here and there. And it will be very interesting to see which decade that happens to fall in.

Rob Wilson thanks David Anthony and Sean Hogan for attending the Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting. Rob Wilson suggests recurring attendance. David Anthony suggests attendance at future meetings be topic driven, it can be as topics demand some connection. Need to preserve the fact that committee is supported through department of public works. The committee is advisory to town council and certainly we can participate on a topic by topic basis and can do an annual update as to things that we have done.

## Old Business

Recycling subcommittee John Solomon

Jane Ward tells members that she listened to the recording of John Solomon speaking to the Town Council. Gordon Starr agrees that the presentation to the Town Council was informative. Gordon Starr asks committee members the next steps would be to move this information into specific actions. Inform restaurants of the State requirements. Setting targets for the Transfer Station. John Solomon discusses additional signage at the Transfer Station making the process of recycling clearer for citizens.

Rob Wilson informs committee members that Peter Doyle sent out the Transfer Station rates for recycling

News Paper @ +\$85 ton.

Metal & cans @ +\$150 ton.

Cardboard @ \$0 ton. (593 tons 2021) 593 tons x \$105per ton = \$62,265

Trash @ \$105 ton (Tons/yr. 9,321 x \$105=\$978,700 (1/3 food)

Mixed paper @ \$105 ton (Tons/yr. 549 x \$105 = \$57,645)

Plastics @ \$105 ton & hauling fee (Tons/yr. 239 x \$105 = \$25,095)

Glass @ \$75 ton & hauling fee (Tons/yr. 383 x \$75 = \$28,725)

Compost @ \$197/ton (Tons/yr. 17 x \$197=\$3,349)

17 x \$105= \$1,785. \$3,349 - \$1,785 = \$1,564 extra needed from grant.  
\$11 & \$5,000. 9,000 stickers, 26,000 pickup  
-Statistic - 4-64 gallon totes/wk. = ½ ton/wk. Or 17 employees = ½ ton/wk.

Rob Wilson asks members if they would like to form some subcommittees based on topics of interest. Members suggest deciding on topics of interest prior to forming sub committees.

Gordon Starr informs committee members of an upcoming meeting of the Town Councilors to work on a strategic plan. Meeting is sometime in June. Gordon Starr will keep members informed.

Members ask for copy of Town of Barnstable Energy Reduction Plan. Peter Doyle tells membership that Cape Light Compact, Margaret Song wrote the Energy Reduction Plan.

The next meeting is May 22, 2023 at 5:00 PM

### **Adjourn**

Rob Wilson asks for a motion to adjourn meeting. Barry Sheingold makes motion to adjourn the May 8, 2023 meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee at 6:15 PM, 2nd by Jane Ward; five members in attendance voted affirmatively, motion carried.

**Next Meeting:** May 22, 2023 at 5:00PM | Remote Zoom Meeting

Upcoming Meetings: May 22, 2023 June 12, 2023 June 26, 2023

### **Documents and Exhibits**

Handout 1: Agenda, May 8, 2023

Handout 2: Draft Infrastructure and Energy Committee Minutes April 24, 2023

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Dabkowski