



# Town of Barnstable Infrastructure and Energy Committee

## Meeting Minutes

**Date: Monday, February 26, 2024, at 5:00PM**

*This meeting of the Barnstable Infrastructure & Energy Committee is being recorded and will be posted for future viewing on the Town of Barnstable website. Under MGL Chapter 30A Section 20, anyone else desiring to make such a recording or transmission must notify the Chair.*

### *Remote Participation Instructions*

*The Infrastructure and Energy Committee's Public Hearing will be held by remote participation methods. Real-time public comment can be addressed to the Infrastructure & Energy Committee utilizing the Zoom link and access code for remote access below:*

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://townofbarnstable-us.zoom.us/j/81185779775?pwd=IWwpaqEVRQXL3rbEwApX5INmtAB6b.1>

Meeting ID: 811 8577 9775

Passcode: 568500

### **Infrastructure and Energy Committee Members present: (On Zoom)**

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

### **Infrastructure and Energy Committee Members absent:**

Jane Ward

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

Gordon Starr, Town Councilor; Kelly Collopy, Communications Manager Department of Public Works

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### **Agenda:**

- (1) Call to order
- (2) Approval of February 12, 2024, Meeting Minutes
- (3) Old Business
  - 3 a. Establish 2024-2025 meeting schedule
    - Proposed dates for discussion purposes (generally, for the next few months, meetings will be scheduled for the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month; \*for exceptions)

March 11, 25

April 15, 29

May 7\*, May 28\*

June 10, June 25\*

Revisit remaining dates at April 29, 2024 meeting

(4) New Business

4 a. Green Communities – Discuss next steps

4 b. Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting – Potential role of IEC

Public Comment Period Open Through March 1 (first deadline) and March 15 (final deadline)

4 c. Discuss agenda for next meeting

(5) Motion to Adjourn

**Call to Order:**

Barry Sheingold, Chair, called the February 26, 2024, meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee (IEC) to order at 5:08 PM. The meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee was held remotely.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

Barry Sheingold made a motion to amend the February 12, 2024, meeting minutes to reflect correct experience cited on page 3. Revision to read ‘energy regulatory field’. Sheingold motions to approve amended minutes, Rob Wilson seconded the motion. Meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

**Old Business**

a. Establish 2024-2025 meeting schedule

Proposed dates for discussion purposes (generally, for the next few months, meetings will be scheduled for the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month; \*for exceptions)

- ~~March 11~~ (new date selected, 3/13), 25
- April 15, 29
- May 7\*, May 28\*
- June 10, June 25\*
- Revisit remaining dates at April 29, 2024 meeting

Barry Sheingold provides the Committee with an update regarding potential new Committee members. Would like to hold off on scheduling future meetings, beyond those proposed for June, to allow feedback from new Committee members.

Town Council Liaison, Kristin Terkelsen, will be out of town from 2/26 – 3/11/24. With that, the proposed March 11, 2024, meeting will be moved to March 13, 2024.

Barry Sheingold moves to adopt current meeting dates, John Solomon seconds the motion. Meetings scheduled from March 13 through June 25, 2024, are approved unanimously.

**Old Business**

a. Green Communities – discuss next steps

Peter Doyle, Vice Chair, briefs the Committee on current criteria for Green Community designation:

1. **Adopt one of the following as a Right of Siting.** Adopt as of right siting for RE/AE (renewable energy/alternative energy). Or R&D (renewable and alternative energy research and development). Or renewable and alternative energy manufacturing in designated locations. Barry Sheingold volunteers to take the lead on this criteria item.

Discussion includes does the Town have a designated area; what does the Town receive in terms of revenue from present solar installations; etc. Next steps would be to engage and work with David Anthony, Director of Asset Management and/or Sean Hogan, Environmental Sustainability Manager.

2. **Expedited Permitting.** Would need to occur within 12 months of the Right of Siting (criteria item #1)
3. **Create an energy reduction plan to reduce energy use by 20% in 5 years.** This includes all municipal buildings and schools, all vehicles, street and traffic lights, water and wastewater facilities.

Peter Doyle highlights questions that he has posed to Lisa Sullivan, Regional Coordinator, Green Communities, including does solar count? Councilor Gordon Starr suggests that Sean Hogan would be the best point of contact as he has done similar work and has worked with Cape Light Compact. Peter Doyle suggests the conversation should include the Department of Public Works, to discuss what DPW's 'wish list' or top initiatives would include for energy reduction.

4. **Fuel efficient vehicles** whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practical. There are exemptions for police, fire and DPW.

This would require a meeting with the Department of Public Works and other Town entities who frequently use vehicles (i.e. Inspectional Services) to adopt green vehicles.

5. **Minimize life cycle costs.** This means, adopt the Stretch Code. The difference between the building code as it is now and the Stretch Code. One of the differences is prescriptive vs performance. Prescriptive being what energy efficient material goes into a building, windows, insulation, appliances etc. Performance being inspection of materials installation and final blower door test. John Solomon volunteers to take the lead on this criteria item.

Peter Doyle suggests a road show approach where Committee/sub-Committee members meet with various Towns to learn about their experience(s). Doyle encourages the Committee and Town Councilors (Terkelsen and Starr) to help get "a pulse" on the Town and specifically Town Council. Urges the Committee to be prepared before re-engaging Town Council.

Barry Sheingold expands on the conversation, suggests some community/internal stakeholder outreach to help provide guidance on what projects or initiatives related to Green Communities interested parties would like to see worked on and ultimately achieved. "What are some potential things that Town Council would be interested in getting funded through this program?" Barry Sheingold volunteers to take the lead on this item.

To recap the Green Communities discussion, Barry Sheingold volunteers to initiate conversations with David Anthony and Sean Hogan; will extend both an invitation to attend a future Committee meeting, if schedules allow.

b. Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting – Potential role of IEC

Barry Sheingold provides a briefing to the Committee on his recent conversations with Councilor Kristin Terkelsen and Town Manager Mark Ells, in which he will continue conversations with both in an advisory capacity.

Commission survey for public comment is open through March 1, 2024 (first deadline) and March 15, 2024 (final deadline). Due to the high level of collaboration and coordination needed amongst departments and stakeholders, the Town will aim to submit by the March 15, 2024, deadline – Sheingold specifically will contribute feedback to Section 6 of the survey regarding ‘community benefit agreements’ (Host Community Agreements/HCA). Commission asks if the New York model for a HCA is a good model for Massachusetts; Sheingold explains the New York model, potential implementation, and his thoughts on how these additional financial benefits could potentially work here in the Town of Barnstable.

c. Discuss agenda for next meeting (March 13, 2024)

- John Solomon to provide an overview of next steps for Food Waste initiative and subcommittee.
- Councilor Gordon Starr suggests the Committee invite Sean Hogan, Environmental Sustainability Manager, to brief members on his role, what he is working on, and how he could potentially contribute to the Energy Reduction Plan.
  - John Solomon circles back on previous audits and work performed by David Anthony; could we use this data as a baseline to kick-off the Energy Reduction Plan process?
- Rob Wilson asks for a sewer update; Kelly Collopy provides link to [BarnstableWaterResources.com](http://BarnstableWaterResources.com) where all Town Council presentations are shared, and projects updates can be found.

Barry Sheingold, Chair, motions to adjourn the meeting. Peter Doyle, Vice Chair, seconds. The Committee votes unanimously in favor, the meeting is adjourned at 5:54 PM.

Next Meeting: March 13, 2024, at 5:00PM

DRAFT Upcoming Agenda for March 13, 2024

1. Call to order
2. Approval of February 26, 2024, Meeting Minutes
3. Old Business
  - 3 a. Commission on Energy Infrastructure Siting and Permitting
    - i. Updates from Barry Sheingold regarding status of Town comments for Commission survey
4. New Business
  - 4 a. Food Waste – Discuss next steps

- i. John Solomon to provide an overview of next steps for Food Waste initiative
- 4 b. Discuss agenda for next meeting
- 5. Motion to Adjourn

**Respectfully submitted by Kelly Collopy, Communications Manager, Barnstable Department of Public Works.**