



Clean Energy and Sustainability Committee

Minutes of Public Meeting

Filed with Town Clerk:

DATE: Wednesday, April 12, 2023 **TIME:** 7:00 PM
PLACE: Town Offices **ADDRESS:** 50 Billerica Road **ROOM:** 200

MINUTES

Prepared by Sean McGuigan, Clerk

MEMBERS PRESENT: Badhri Uppiliappan (Chair, in person), Sean McGuigan (Clerk, remote), David Sperry (remote), Peter Spawn (in person), Bern Kosicki (in person), Caeli Tegan Zampach (remote), Jack Bergstrom (in person), Jim Walton (in person)

MEMBERS ABSENT: David Drayton, Brittany Nammour

OTHERS PRESENT: Chris Haley, Chelmsford Sustainability Manager

Public Input

No public input

Committee Liaison updates

Dave Sperry – Received email from Bentley students asking for 2021 diesel/gasoline use data. Dave will forward the data request from students to Chris Haley. Dave will reach out to them to schedule a close-out meeting since the semester is winding down.

Website Discussion

Peter and Chris met and Chris was able to post the December NetZero draft report to our CEAS website. We will continue to populate the website.

Update on MassSave Grant and HPC Selection Policy

We have received \$10,000 out of the \$20,000 grant. Money is to be spent on mailings and consulting support for people interested in buying heat pumps.

HPC Selection – All-in-Energy has provided our questions to possible HPCs – Bern will reach out for an update. All-in-Energy will be contacting/marketing underserved community members. State EJ maps could be used as starting point for All-in-Energy. Community Teamwork is showing up to Earth Day event.

Specialized Stretch Code Adoption

Badhri and Bern went to Select Board meeting on 4/10/23 and discussed the warrant article. Presentation erred in stating that the Specialized Stretch Code applied to renovations. Resulted in Select Board voting to not support adopting the code. DOER had the same mistake in their slide at the library meeting last night.

Bern makes a motion to withdraw the article for Spring Town Meeting. Peter seconds the motion. Roll call vote and motion passes 8-0.

Update on Chelmsford Choice

Sean and Badhri gave a presentation on Chelmsford Choice to Select Board on 4/3/23 and the Select Board voted to have the Greener option be the default. Town Manager will negotiate the contract in April. Sean has action item to develop community awareness tools including the delivery/supply impact.

NMCOG

Peter and Chris met with Daniela and went through vision of plan. Daniela just requested a follow-up meeting to discuss fresh ideas for the report. Peter will update the Committee next month. Funding will run out in May but there will likely be fresh funding available.

Tree Coverage

Peter is working with the Town to apply for a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP) grant. Peter asked the Committee to support a letter of support/commitment that can be included with the proposal. Current draft proposal is for \$150k with a town match and in-kind contribution. Roll call vote and motion passes 6-0 with 2 abstentions (Jack and Badhri).

Meeting Minutes

The February 13th and March 13th meeting minutes are up for. Both sets of meeting minutes are approved and Sean will submit to the Town Clerk for posting.

Court Case Concerning Public Input at Meetings

A recent court decision determined that the public has a right to speak at open meetings even when they use abusive language.

Earth Day Fair

April 22nd from 1-4 at the library – CEAS will have a table with attendance from some members.

May 2023 Meeting Date

We will schedule a meeting for Wednesday, May 8th from 7-9 PM.

Sustainability Manager Update

Chris is working with National Grid on how to “green” our Town vehicle fleet. Hopefully, we will be able to purchase more electric vehicles and charging stations. Can we discuss with National Grid what they are doing about leaking natural gas leaks? Chris suggests Christine Clancy might have a better contact.

Committee Changes

Caeli resigned from the Committee since she moved to Methuen.

Miscellaneous

Chris states that the Select Board would like committees to settle on a standard meeting day and time. We will try to stick to the second Monday of the month.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20.