

**Infrastructure & Energy Committee
Minutes, March 14, 2022**

Infrastructure & Energy Committee Members present: (On Zoom)

Jane Ward, Vice Chair, Dr. Paul Canniff, Kathryn Hautanen, B. Clay Schofield, John Solomon,

Infrastructure & Energy Committee Members absent:

Peter Doyle, Chair, Rob Wilson

Others in Attendance: (On Zoom)

Gordon Starr, Councilor, Cindy Dabkowski, Administrative Assistant

Call to Order:

Jane Ward, Vice Chair called the March 14, 2022 meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee (IEC) to order at 5:15 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 February 14, 2022 Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting. 2nd by Dr. Paul Canniff, five members in attendance voted affirmatively, motion carried.

Motion moved by Dr. Paul Canniff to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2022 Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting. 2nd by John Solomon, four members in attendance voted affirmatively, Kathryn Hautanen abstained, motion carried.

New Business

None

Old Business

Chatham's Net Zero ordinance and State of Massachusetts net zero Kathryn Hautanen, Not a very robust program at this time, No action to be taken at this time.

Recycling subcommittee John Solomon reports is ready now to move forward with the draft budget. John Solomon asks the committee members if they had any questions or comments on the proposed budget, before it is finalized.

Kathryn Hautanen asks if members were able to review the Lexington program that was sent to members. John Solomon did look at that. It looks like they're doing something along the same lines the difference being they have collections points. Where people can bring their food waste. It didn't sound like they had a transfer station and it would make sense in a town such as Lexington that they would have a town wide curbside pickup. This is an alternative to separate food waste curbside pickup you could bring it to one of these collection points. It's kind of analogous to what we're doing here in Barnstable where we use the transfer station as our collection. Jane Ward asks are these collection points sort of like giant dumpsters that are sealed. Gordon Starr asks if could collect email information from citizens that pick up the compost bins and compostable liners for data collection later.

Not sure exactly what those collection points would look like. And that of course, is a challenge. Where it's unmanned. You have to have some way for people to get the stuff in but animals can't get in. The transfer station has attendants. John Solomon looked into a lot of options. The concept is to have countertop bins and liners available to hand out to people and encourage people who are already bringing their recycling to the transfer station to bring their food waste as well. John Solomon states we're hoping to get four or five hundred families signed up to compost home food waste that is a significant amount of food waste. Gordon Starr is wondering, Can you collect addresses or emails so that you can follow up with people find out how they are doing. Could

have some ability to follow up with people to see what's working for them see what could be done to make the process easier for them.

Kathryn Hautanen asks if there's some way to put a QR code or a URL on a card, so that citizens are able to sign up and reserve compost bins and compostable liner. Could follow up with them easily.

Committee members discuss committing to food waste composting long term or as a pilot, if program cancelled? How would citizens get informed? Committee decides to remain optimistic people who go to the trouble of going in and picking up the bin and liners making the process much more pleasant a good percentage of that will actually follow through and bring food waste. Definitely learning as we go along.

Committee members discuss doing things like getting an article in local papers. Contacting various civic associations in add information to their newsletter. Getting the word out.

John Solomon reports that Kari Parcell, Municipal Assistance Coordinator recycling forwarded a study that the Cape Cod Commission had done studies found that the region's waste stream doubles in tonnage from May through September, waste quantities continue to increase, and the greatest opportunity for waste diversion is to increase recycling . The Barnstable Patriot summarized the study basically talking about each town will retain its own transfer station, but will find opportunities for shared regional and sub regional processing facilities to enhance reuse and recycling and jointly negotiate disposal contracts. John Solomon states diverting food waste from our waste stream will go a long way. John Solomon mentions that Daniel Santos was on board with this project. John Solomon would like finalize the budget plan and share with Daniel Santos and PJ Kelliher.

Jane Ward asks for a **motion** to accept the budget John Solomon prepared as written. Dr. Paul Canniff seconds the motion. Five members in attendance voted affirmatively motion carried.

Members agree that will only move forward with budget plan with the support of the Town. We've gotten the approval to go ahead and develop it. Certainly be running it by them again before we continue that's understood.

Native Plant by law – Peter Doyle is planning to discuss with Mr. Santos before going any further with this idea. If the Town of Barnstable is already using native plants it would be nice to place signage at the native planting sites to inform residents.

Massachusetts Bottle Bill – Jane Ward states on agenda as a point of reminder, and I don't have anything new on the bottle bill. Other than what I mentioned probably a couple months ago now I haven't checked back on it. So nothing new to add there. I haven't seen anything on it, but I also haven't hunted it down. Sorry.

Sustainability Position Gordon Starr states nothing new to report Town Manger is moving forward with the idea, but he's still trying to conceptualize where it is going to go his office, or the planning department. Gordon Starr will pull together all the job descriptions that we collected from various towns.

Committee discusses and agrees they would like to hear about residential programs offered by the Cape Light Compact. Possibly bring in the Town Councilors who are in the environmental justice neighborhoods.

Gordon Starr explains that there is a Cape Cod Commission subcommittee that's discussing the building of the Wilkins Lane project a four story, 272 units, and three residential buildings. Gordon Starr explains he has been trying to push to make those buildings energy efficient. The builder wants to put in gas heat, gas hot water. Gordon Starr asks if members would like to get involved. The next subcommittee meeting about Wilkens is April 5, 2022. Currently they propose to have about 400 parking spaces and they proposed four core electric vehicle charging stations, and maybe eight of them eight more are going to be wired. No solar planned on the roof. But they might make it solar ready. Even though solar panels aren't efficient enough for them. There doesn't seem to

be much set up for recycling. They have to have their own pump station for town sewers. No generators planned. This is not very progressive thinking.

Adjourn

Jane Ward asks for a motion to adjourn meeting. **Motion** moved John Solomon to adjourn the March 14, 2022 meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee at 5:58 PM, 2nd by Kathryn Hautanen; five members in attendance voted affirmatively.

Next Meeting: March 28, 2022 5:00PM | Remote Zoom Meeting

Upcoming Meeting: April 11, 2022 April 25, 2022 May 9, 2022 May 23, 2022

Documents and Exhibits

Handout 1: Agenda, March 14, 2022

Handout 2: Draft Infrastructure and Energy Committee Minutes February 14, 2022 and February 28, 2022

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Dabkowski