

## **Infrastructure & Energy Committee Minutes, March 28, 2022**

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

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

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

Rob Wilson

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

Gordon Starr, Town Councilor, Cindy Dabkowski, Administrative Assistant, Jeffrey Mendes citizen, Briana Kane. Residential Program Manager at Cape Light Compact

### **Call to Order:**

Peter Doyle, Chair called the March 28, 2022 meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee (IEC) to order at 5:02 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 14, 2022 Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting. 2nd by Dr. Paul Canniff, five members in attendance voted affirmatively, motion carried.

### **New Business**

Guest Speaker Briana Kane. Residential Program Manager at Cape Light Compact presents Greening your home PowerPoint presentation attached (attachment 1) Brianna Kane explains Cape Light Compact is a municipal aggregator. Cape Light Compact provides power supply, energy efficiency and consumer advocacy to residents of Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard as well as to commercial businesses. Cape Light Compact has 100% renewable power supplies for keeping Cape and Vineyard resident customers and commercial customers. Cape Light Compact offers rebates and incentives for residential customers as well as commercial customers whether you rent or own. Cape Light Compact does a lot of consumer advocacy, working with towns and local entities to make sure the word is out about whom the Cape Light Compact is and what programs are provided.

Brianna Kane noted that the Cape Light Compact is a municipal aggregator, but under the mass municipal restructuring Act in 2017 Cape Light Compact became a joint powers entity comprised of all of the 15 towns on the Cape and the Vineyard and Dukes County is also a member of Cape Light Compact. Cape Light Compact is the first municipal aggregator in the US as well as the first joint powers entity in Massachusetts. Cape Light Compact is often sought for information about municipal aggregation and how to administer especially in particular energy efficiency programs. Cape Light Compact office is located on White Path in South Yarmouth. One of the big questions about the energy efficiency programs is how are the programs funded? Every customer whether you're a residential customer or a commercial customer that receives an electric bill from Eversource pays a charge on their electric bill. It is called the Energy Efficiency surcharge. How much you contribute is dependent upon how much you use. The bill is paid to Eversource and then Eversource takes all of the energy efficiency charges and returns to the Cape Light Compact to administer the energy efficiency programs. Cape Light Compact now in the 2022 - 2024 energy efficiency plan. Cape Light Compact spent about 18 months putting the plan together and worked with stakeholders from the Attorney General's office, the Department of Energy Resources and the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council at the State to develop. Brianna Kane explains there are a lot of big climate policy actions happening. There was an act creating the next generation roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy. The climate act requires Cape Light Compact to meet certain greenhouse gases (GHG) emission reduction goals that we need to meet as well as the clean energy and climate plan, which requires electrification of 1 million homes by 2050. See attached PowerPoint presentation for more details.

Peter Doyle discusses the need to vote on whether Infrastructure and Energy Committee Meetings should be recorded and posted to web page for citizens to view. Peter Doyle asks for a motion to speak in favor of recordings of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee meetings

John Solomon states he has come around to the view that it would be better to record and post Infrastructure and Energy Committee meetings because the benefit of greater public access. He agrees there may be some downsides to it, but believes it would be better to recorded and posted to website.

John Solomon makes a motion that Infrastructure and Energy Committee going forward record our zoom sessions and post to the Infrastructure and energy Committee webpage. Clay Scofield seconds the motion members vote

Dr. Paul Canniff	Opposed
Peter Doyle	in Favor
Clay Schofield	in Favor
John Solomon	in Favor
Jane Ward	Opposed

Three votes in favor and two votes opposed. Kathryn Hautanen left meeting and hasn't voted. The vote is postponed to next meeting for discussion

### **Old Business**

*Chatham's Net Zero ordinance and State of Massachusetts net zero Kathryn Hautanen*, No action to be taken at this time.

*Recycling subcommittee John Solomon* reports is ready now to move forward with the budget. John Solomon asks the committee members if they had any questions or comments on the budget, before it is presented to Dan Santos and PJ Kelliher. Committee members discuss committing to food waste composting. How would citizens be informed? Members agree that will only move forward with budget plan with the support of the Town.

*Sustainability Position Gordon Starr* states nothing new to report Town Manger is trying to conceptualize where position is going to go for example his office, or the planning department. Gordon Starr will pull together all the job descriptions that were collected from various towns.

Peter Doyle notes that there are three areas that need champion

Massachusetts Bottle Bill

Summerville Native Plant bylaw

Cape Light Compact Liaison

Clay Schofield requests to be appointed the Cape Light Compact Liaison, Peter Doyle states may be the only interested party, will discuss at next meeting.

Jane Ward announces to committee members a White House Virtual Event – “Let’s Clear the Air on COVID: A Discussion on Clean Indoor Air” to be held Tuesday, March 29, 2022 at 12:30. She hopes members will attend. The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) will host a virtual event spotlighting the science behind improving indoor air quality to reduce COVID-19 transmission and produce better overall health outcomes – and how to engage Americans on the topic.

### **Adjourn**

Peter Doyle asks for a motion to adjourn meeting. **Motion** moved Jane Ward to adjourn the March 28, 2022 meeting of the Infrastructure and Energy Committee at 6:29 PM, 2nd by John Solomon; five members in attendance voted affirmatively.

**Next Meeting:** April 11, 2022 5:00PM | Remote Zoom Meeting

Infrastructure and Energy Committee Minutes – March 28, 2022 Meeting

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

**Documents and Exhibits**

Handout 1: Agenda, March 28, 2022

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

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Dabkowski