



Clean Energy and Sustainability Committee

Minutes of Public Meeting

Filed with Town Clerk:

DATE: **Tuesday, February 4, 2025** *TIME:* **5:30 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, in person), Peter Spawn (in person), Bern Kosicki (in person), Jack Bergstrom (virtual), Nicolas Mercier (virtual)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim Walton

OTHERS PRESENT: Chris Haley, Chelmsford Sustainability Manager

Public Input

No public input

National Grid Reach-Out

Badhri met with National Grid and they would like to help us market our Clean Heat initiative and the MassSave energy efficiency audits. Will they work to demo heat pumps, Perhaps during the Town's Earth Day event or the Country Fair in July, they can demo heat pumps and participate as a resource? How do we access the assessor's database to find those people?

Homeworks Energy Update

Bern proposes that we have a discussion with Homeworks Energy to discuss how we can work together on the Billerica grant. The postcard they sent in October/November resulted in a spike in audits so engagement works. They also spent some time knocking on doors in the fall. Can we do a mailer with tax bills around March 31? Should we recommend Homeworks to Billerica? Would be easier for the Energy Advocate (EA) if both towns used the HPC. What are some good locations for a Homeworks Energy staffed booth? Hannaford, Market Basket, Walmart? Homeworks attended the Chelmsford Council of Schools meeting in January – the ~\$800 check of the schools' shares is being sent and the program will be renewed in 2025. How do we inspire the school families to participate? Have Homeworks attend sporting events, music programs, meet your teacher night?

Mean Streets Initiatives / Small Businesses:

- Nicolas had a call last week with Crystal Hamlin from EnergySource. She shared with him the list of businesses that they had contact with and for which they had proposals out, with the status (project completed, or did not go forward). They talked about best practices from other towns and Nicholas thinks we could create our own database of businesses (using the list that Lisa Marrone provided as a starting point), do some kind of pre-canvassing (with the help of the EA) before the next campaign and collect data that would help the next campaign be more targeted and efficient.

CFP Partnership:

- The program is delayed, pending the DPU approval of the 3-year decarbonization plan expected on Feb 28.
- The training/onboarding is now planned on April 4th
- Nicholas has submitted the intake questionnaire and he is expecting some back and forth with All-In-Energy in the next few weeks as they start setting up the marketing material for us (website, etc)

Chelmsford Choice

After April Select Board elections, we will go in front of the Select Board to discuss the program and get them on board. Can we get other regional wind options? The market will come to us with their energy pricing options.

Strategic Action Plan

Badhri and Peter are pushing for as many sustainability options as possible in the Town's Strategic Action Plan.

Meeting Minutes

The December 4th and January 8th meeting minutes are available for approval. Jack made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for those two meetings as amended. The motion was seconded by Peter and the motion was approved. The meeting minutes will be sent to the Town Clerk.

Sustainability Manager Update

State is still reviewing the Climate Leaders application documents we submitted. How will the change in federal funding affect MA programs?

Senator Barrett will speak at the library on February 25th at 6:30-8:15 PM at the Library during the last week of February. Topics will be reviewing the recent climate bills and sustainability in general. What can Chelmsford do to help Senator Barrett? We will try to get some time with him before or after the meeting.

March 2025 Meeting Date

We have scheduled our next meeting for March 4, 2025 at 5:30 PM with back-up at 7:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50.