



# Clean Energy and Sustainability Committee

## *Minutes of Public Meeting*

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**DATE:** Wednesday, May 14, 2025      **TIME:** 7:00 PM  
**PLACE:** Town Offices      **ADDRESS:** 50 Billerica Road      **ROOM:** 200

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### **MINUTES**

*Prepared by Sean McGuigan, Clerk*

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Badhri Uppiliappan (Chair, in person), Bern Kosicki (virtual), Jack Bergstrom (virtual), Priyar Eswar (virtual), Nicolas Mercier (in person)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Sean McGuigan, Jim Walton, Peter Spawn

**OTHERS PRESENT:** None

#### **Meeting Called to Order at 7:05 PM**

#### **Public Input**

No public input

#### **Community First Partnership Grant**

There have been eight different training/check-in sessions with MassSave for the Community First Partnership grant and our Committee has attended all of them. Grant money has been provided to Chelmsford and we are holding the funds in reserve. The job has been posted and we have a good number of applicants but interviews have not started yet. Bern will be meeting with Billerica's new Town Manager via Zoom at 11:00AM on May 21, 2025. Bern will send invites to Chris and Nicolas and Peter has an invite as well. Energy Advocate will be trained separately once they are hired.

#### **Clean Heat and Solarize Chelmsford Updates**

Badhri represented Chelmsford at a meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup> where MA DOER certified the first 19 cities/towns that achieved the status of a Climate Leader Community. Chelmsford is now eligible to apply for grants. Badhri met with Lt Gov Driscoll about state-wide clean heat and solarize campaigns and DOER Commissioner Mahoney about setting up a demo trailer as an experience center with heat pumps.

#### **Homeworks Energy Update – Home Performance Contractor for MassSave**

In this meeting with Billerica on 5/21, a topic to be discussed will be whether Billerica wants to work with Homeworks Energy as their HPC. Bern is trying to obtain a template MOU from MassSave between a Town and a HPC. Homeworks Energy was doing a door-to-door campaign in Chelmsford last week. Bern will have a meeting with Homeworks Energy soon to discuss a media campaign and Jack volunteered to attend the meeting as well. Homeworks Energy is addressing turnover problems and will be performing additional training of their employees to improve their performance. Badhri asked Bern to ask Homeworks Energy to provide data on how many letters were sent to Chelmsford residents in April.

### **Chelmsford Choice**

Peregrine and Badhri gave presentations on Chelmsford Choice to the Select Board on May 12 and Select Board will likely vote on May 19. We will try to lock in as much green power as we can get for the current Basic option price. Badhri will try to attend the May 19 meeting.

### **Low Impact Development**

Chelmsford has the desire to review how to promote low impact development in Chelmsford (impervious surface designs, water quality, tree planting). A committee is being formed for about 13 months with representatives of the Planning Board, Conservation Committee, DPW and other departments/committees. CEAS is being offered a seat on this committee. This committee will hire a contractor who will help us prepare a low impact development process. Badhri is looking for a volunteer for this new position.

### **Climate Action Plan Update**

Our four pillars are focused on buildings, clean electricity, transportation, and zoning changes. We're moving the needle on clean electricity but we need to continue to work on buildings – clean heat and MassSave assessments. How do we promote heat pumps as incentives expire?

### **Meeting Minutes**

The April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes are available for approval but we will approve the minutes next month.

### **Sustainability Manager Update**

Chris will share the decarbonization roadmap with the Committee. He is also working on a RFP to prepare a feasibility study for the Town's municipal buildings. The school buildings assessment project is almost complete.

The Town is moving the Adams Library chargers to the McKay Library. The Police Department, DPW, and North fire station will be getting superchargers for municipal use only. We are waiting on National Grid for superchargers at five sites with six superchargers at each site (Adams Library will be one of the sites). Funds from charging goes directly to the Town's general fund.

### **Announcements**

None

### **June 2025 Meeting Date**

We have scheduled our next meeting for June 11, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8.00.