

Energy Committee

Carlton Hunt – Chair
Thomas Carson – Vice Chair
Kristen Zarrelli – Secretary



Academy Building - 66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324

Meeting Minutes for the Meeting Convening on 05/16/2023 Prepared by Kristen Zarrelli.

Link to Meeting Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KcdiobxL8VU>

A. Call to Order at 6:31 PM

B. Members in Attendance – Carlton Hunt, Thomas Carson, Kristen Zarrelli
Guests in attendance – Josh McGraw, Pat Neary

C. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. a) April 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes – deferred

D. Public Comment - None

E. Old Business

a. Update on unanimously passed committee votes from prior meetings:

i. Request to adopt Specialized Energy Code:

1. The chair explains the committee's request to the town council to move forward on the specialized code. In order for the adoption of the code to move forward, the town council would have to vote. This request was sent to the council on April 21st. The energy committee has not yet received a response from the council.

ii. Request For Proposal (RFP) to hire an Energy Aggregation Consultant:

1. The second town council request was to vote on the hiring of an Energy Consultant. The chair reiterates that the RFP is for a consultant to be contracted by the town to support the development of energy aggregation. The letter sent to the town council was received and is currently being acted upon by the town manager.
2. Josh McGraw comments that the documents specific to the topic are unable to be made public until June 1st.
 - a. The responses to the RFP will open up on June 1st. The deadline to respond is June 19th. The responses can be found on the state's website.
 - b. Josh cannot yet disclose how long the consultant's contract will be with the town, due to the current uncertainty of an official start date of the awarded contract.

b. Report Review

- i. The committee discusses consolidating previous reports and goals presented to the council and town manager into a shorter, more readable document that includes links. The committee also discusses adding links and information received from the Massachusetts Citizen Planner Training Collaborative (CPTC) conference that the chair and secretary had attended.
 1. The chair explains that information could be reported as a list of links to address the goal. The secretary agrees.
 - a. The secretary mentioned progress in creating two concise outlines that provide links to grant and tax credit opportunities. One list caters to the citizen planners' of the town, and the other caters to the residents.

c. Big Belly:

- i. The chair requests the co-chair to type this as a memo:
- ii. The co-chair discussed the incentive move the one Big Belly Bridgewater has. He also spoke to the highway department and the Recreation Commission. The commission ideally would like four big belly receptacles for:
 1. The Bridgewater common
 2. Basketball courts
 3. Legion Field
 4. Marathon Park
- iii. The prices for the Big Bellies are 7,500 as combined compactors.
- iv. Benefits of a Big Belly: the receptacles contain 5x the amount of trash as a normal trash barrel, cutting services while significantly cleaning the area.
- v. The chair will take action to mention the Big Belly and the benefit to the town manager. The co-chair adds in that it may be beneficial to look into town sponsors to off-set the costs.

F. New Business

a. Update on the request for PHIUS Standards for New Fire Station:

- i. The committee is scheduled for a workshop next Monday with the architect for the fire station building
 1. The secretary clarified that in a previous meeting, the memo/FYI to suggest following PHIUS building requirements for the new fire station's development was to be sent to the building committee.
 2. The chair takes the action to send the suggestion to the building committee as well as the architect for input, next week.

b. Public Education and Involvement

- i. The co-chair reports his attempts to contact Bridgewater TV (BTV) to make accessible the energy committee's aforementioned list of opportunities to the public. He emphasizes the importance of providing opportunities that are available to the residents and what they would benefit from.

- ii. The chair agrees that the committee should try to transfer the committee's information to the public regarding the current Energy Aggregation progress in the town, as well as the incentives for Solarization and Small-in.
- iii. The secretary suggests setting up a booth at town events to gain traction.
 - 1. The co-chair will take action follow-up on finding out who the organizers are for certain town and Bridgewater State University events to see if the committee would be able to promote at an event.
 - 2. The secretary shares hinghamnetzero.org as a resource for citizens to learn more about energy efficiency and incentives. The secretary expresses that Hingham as a model may be beneficial as the Bridgewater energy committee works on its own developments for grants and educational outreach.
 - 3. The chair explains that hiring the energy consultant mentioned previously could play a role in the formation of accessible resident resources as well as community outreach. Also mentioned properly citing the work of Hingham's energy committee to be shared with Bridgewater residents.
 - 4. The chair takes action to follow up with the town manager concerning the desire to have an energy consultant work on the setup of an outreach campaign.

G. Action Items

a. Carlton (chair) –

- i. Send the PHIUS building standards suggestion to the building committee as well as the architect for input.
- ii. Follow up with the town manager concerning the desire to have an energy consultant work on the setup of an outreach campaign.
- iii. Mention the Big Belly and the benefit to the town manager.

b. Tom (co-chair) –

- i. Follow-up on finding out who the organizers are for certain town and Bridgewater State University events to see if the committee would be able to promote at an event.

c. Kristen (secretary) –

- i. Send the document of links to the energy committee once finished

H. Next Meeting Date – TBD

I. Adjournment of Meeting –

Thomas Carlson motioned to adjourn the meeting of the Energy Committee at 6:59 p.m. which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.