

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER

Energy Committee

Carlton Hunt – Chair
Thomas Carson
Kristen Zarrelli



Agenda for the Meeting Convening on January 17, 2023, at 6:30 PM

Disclosure: Pursuant to Section 20 of Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021, An Act Relative to Extending Certain Covid-19 Measures Adopted During the State of Emergency, this meeting of the Energy Committee for the Town of Bridgewater will be fully remote and accessible to the public through remote participation to the greatest extent possible. There will be no in person attendance permitted. Citizens who wish to tune in to the meeting may do so via Zoom or Facebook Live.

Link to join meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86246443313>

Call In: 1-646-876-9923
Meeting ID: 86246443313

A. Call to Order at 6:30pm

B. Minutes Approval

- a. October 18, 2022 Meeting Minutes

C. Public Comment

D. Presentations

E. Old Business

- a. Climate Sustainability – Hazard Mitigation Plan - Energy Committee role (Town Manager)
- b. Big Belly units –
 - i. Status of current unit (Tom)
 - ii. Pursuing further units? <https://bigbelly.com/solutions/city/>
- c. Bridgewater Municipal Energy Tracking
 - i. Solar Field Supply
 - 1. NGRID Solar Field Energy Credit process (TBD)
 - 2. 2022 data tracking (Carlton)
 - ii. MEI monitored data
 - 1. OSLGC energy use and cost findings, who pays (Carlton)
 - 2. FY22/FY23 data report (Carlton)
- d. Zoning and more
 - i. Lithium Storage Batteries – Regulations/research (TBD)
 - ii. Tree Cutting Ordinance – Combating Climate Change/role of Tree Committee (TBD)
 - iii. Potential Wind Energy Ordinance (TBD)

- iv. PHIUS applicability/adoption (TBD): “Phius, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, is committed to decarbonizing the built environment by making high-performance passive building the mainstream market standard. We train and certify professionals, maintain and update the Phius climate-specific passive building standard, certify and quality assure passive buildings, certify high-performance building products and conduct research to advance high-performance building.” Local application of the passive building (Carlton)
- v. SolSmart designation (TBD): Should Bridgewater pursue this designation?
SolSmart is national program led by the Interstate Renewable Energy Council and the International City/County Management Association with funding from the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Energy Technologies Office. SolSmart designations are awarded based upon several criteria for removing obstacles to solar energy development.
- e. Small Scale Wind system update (Carlton)
- f. MCAN: goals, opportunities (Kristin)
- g. Energy Aggregation program (Kristin)

F. New Business

- a. Reports – status and actions
 - i. Goal 1: Energy Grant Opportunities for Bridgewater
 - ii. Goal 2 :Energy Initiatives
 - iii. Goal 3: Energy Educational Program
- b. CY22 Energy Committee Report for Annual Town Report

Next Meeting Date TBD

G. Adjourn



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 10/18/2022, at 7:00 PM
These minutes were prepared by Kristen Zarrelli.

Link to Meeting Recording:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9U_jrtE17Tk

A. Call to Order at 7:00 PM

B. Members in Attendance – Carlton Hunt, Thomas Carson, Kristen Zarrelli

B. Guests in attendance – Michael Dutton, Joshua McGraw, Pat Neary

D. Discussion Topics

1. Energy Committee Goals – Town Manager

1. Mission: Develop a framework of short-term objectives to tackle long term goals; a collaborative effort between the various town committees that impact energy use and sustainability and elected officials buying into an energy policy.

2. Goals

“1) Explore common sense initiatives to help guide the town of Bridgewater to a future where, by 2050, net emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gasses attributable to all sources in town are zero. The expected outcome should be a report developed by the Committee utilizing research studies, projects and

collaborations with residents and businesses. The report would form the basis for a Council-voted energy policy.

2) Work collaboratively with other town committees that have an impact on energy use and sustainability to provide advice and expertise on increasing energy efficiency and maximizing the use of clean, renewable energy. Specifically, research grant availability and processes for installation of solar arrays at key locations including the golf course parking lot, Legion Field parking lot, the school parking lots, and other appropriate Town-owned parcels. In addition, proceed with discussions with Indigo Golf on use of golf property for small scale wind.

3) Develop an educational program for residents and businesses about local, state, and federal resources to improve energy efficiency, protect the environment, and maximize other public benefits of energy production, consumption, and distribution within the town.”

b. Small-Scale Wind

1. Discussed opportunities for future installations and expansion of the small-scale wind operation

b. Climate Action Sustainability plan

2. Town accepted a plan to deal with hazards.
3. Unclear of where this currently stands. Town Manager to provide status.

b. Increase Big Belly solar units around town

4. Connect with Parks and Rec Commission; discuss desirable locations (carver, marathon park, etc.)
5. Work with highway department to maintain them and determine best locations

b. Solar Credits

6. Committee needs a clear understanding of how NGRID solar credits are derived and accounted for in the Town budget.
7. Can be sent to the other partners such as the school system.

b. Reports on Zoning recommendations

8. Lithium Battery safety and installation regulations
9. Carbon sequestration - tree cutting report
10. Wind ordinance

E. Action Items

1. Carlton

1. S70 CMR 13 —May be necessary in the Green community report.

2. Community Preservation Act — communicate with other committees.
3. Report rough outline / content of a zoning report for Energy Committee to utilize in the future
4. Small-scale wind: Inform inventor of high school's interest in small-scale wind

2. Thomas

1. Look into how the town can access grants pertaining to energy.
2. Research SolSmart Designation
3. Bridgewater-Raynham High School; follow up with facilities manager:
 1. Collaborate with Parks and Rec. Department on relocation of Big Belly
 2. Are the installed solar panels functioning?
 3. Potential for small-scale wind to be used on the roof

3. Kristen

1. Alternative energy policies/ installations
2. Energy Aggregation — Research and education
3. Starting a local Spell out on first use MCAN chapter
4. Big Belly Solar Research

4. Carlton/Kristen

1. How to apply PHIUS 2021 Zoning to Bridgewater, especially for new buildings

E. Future Topics

5. Massachusetts Stretch Energy Codes
6. What educating residents on energy goal's/opportunities will look like.

E. Next Meeting Date – January 10th, 2023

Adjourn – *Carlton Hunt motioned to adjourn the meeting of the Energy Committee at 7:45 p.m. which was duly seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.*