

Energy Action Committee

Minutes - January 7, 2025; 7:00PM

Agenda

1) Meeting Announcement

The meeting announcement was read, and the meeting was called to order.

2) Approval of minutes from prior meeting

A brief discussion of the minutes took place and, after some conversation, the minutes were unanimously approved.

3) Review recent Specialized Code activities and next steps

a) Review warrant article

The group reviewed the Specialized Energy Code Warrant article

- Created by town counsel
- Patterned after the DOER template

It was noted that the article doesn't describe what the code is. The committee agreed that the EAC and HCAC would like input on the descriptive information in the booklet sent to residents for town meeting. Brad C. to contact Brenda Black to better understand the process.

The EAC voted to support the Specialized Energy Code Warrant article as written.

b) Discuss next steps

4) Other updates as appropriate:

a) HPS EV Bus Update

HPS has grant funding for the purchase of 3 EV school buses. However, funding is still required for the charging infrastructure which HPS will take to town meeting for approval.

The EAC agreed that it will support any funding requests the school has for EV bus support.

b) Public Safety building

No new updates

5) Discussion: 2025 EAC objectives

Brad C. announced that he will become a part time resident of Hingham and that he will not seek to extend his assignment when it's over in July.

The committee discussed whether there should be both an HCAC and EAC committee. Brianna reminded the committee that the approved warrant articles for both committees may need revisions.

John stated that he was in favor of merging the two committees and also said that the EAC's mission is focused on municipal usage of energy which is still a valuable pursuit; whether as its own committee or part of the HCAC.

It was noted that one doesn't need to be a member of the HCAC to participate in HCAC working groups.

Climate Leaders is a focus area after the Specialized Energy Code. For discussion in the next EAC meeting, what are the next steps for Climate Leaders and can Hingham apply in March 2025 or at the next opportunity.

Patricia to have a conversation with Art regarding Climate Leaders and whether there are any open concerns and/or what can EAC do to progress the conversation.

The group discussed the need to engage with the new senior center building committee

The group is evaluating the disposition of the EAC and will discuss it again at the next meeting.

6) Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:30 PM.