

Energy Action Committee

January 30, 2022; 7:00PM via Zoom

Minutes

Present

Brad Carr
Tom Morahan
Paul Sprecher
Brad Moyer

Regrets

Abi Sood
Sue Nickerson
Aisha Oppong
James Byrne

Guests / Public

Brianna Bennett

Minutes organized by agenda item are as follows:

- 1) Meeting Announcement
 - a) Brad C. read the online meeting announcement and began recording the meeting
 - b) Quorum was confirmed
- 2) Approval of minutes from January 30 meeting
 - a) The committee unanimously approved minutes from the January 30 meeting.
 - b) Included with the minutes will be the original EAC description and a PDF case study on heat pump operating result
- 3) Heat Pump advocacy
 - a) Review of Abi Case Study
 - i) Abi was not in attendance – agenda item will be moved to the next meeting
 - b) Abi and Brianna were not able to meeting a prepare a ‘roadmap’ to heat pump incentives.
 - c) Tom highlighted that the EAC was originally formed to focus on municipal topics; however, there is a Select Committee comment regarding raising public awareness
 - d) Harbor Media is working on a heat pump video

- e) Paul raised the issue that people are struggling with finding installers and getting heat pumps installed. Brianna also reported that contractors are not helping residents with the rebate process.
- 4) Updates from members on action items
- a) Transportation
 - i) No updates regarding EV incentives – Brad C to continue to monitor the EPA Clean School Bus site for next steps
 - b) Safety Building
 - i) No new updates
 - c) Foster School
 - i) No new updates (although there is noticeable change onsite)
 - d) CAPC
 - i) Committee voted to approve the Climate Action Plan draft for dissemination to the town
 - ii) Brad M. is taking another pass to make sure comments are incorporated and generally cleaned up
 - iii) Next step is to socialize the plan with various town committees
 - iv) School committee currently planned for Feb 13
 - v) There is no need for a town vote at this time. Certain recommendations may require funding via another body which could lead to a town meeting through the budgetary process for 2024
 - vi) A commission to monitor the plan will likely go to the town for a vote
 - e) HMLP
 - i) Tom reported that HMLP gained approval from the town to install 2 level 3 EV chargers. One at Lynch Field and one at Station Street. Grant funds are already approved
 - ii) Continued working with Weymouth to install a new power line to supplement current sources; including public meetings
- 5) Discussion: best way to address climate action plan should Hingham adopt the CAPC proposal
- a) The team discussed Article 41 which formed the EAC and what activities would add value to the town's overall climate goals. Ideas included:
 - i) Be a resource to the Commission overseeing the climate action plan focusing on certain (TBD) areas of focus
 - ii) Be a resource focused on ensuring the town and residents are aware of and taking advantage of all possible incentives (Federal, State, Local)
 - iii) If the town's sustainability coordinator does not become a permanent role, the EAC could become a de-facto replacement
 - b) The committee believes we can continue to operate under the original Article 41 but it would be good to overlay a focused approach

- c) The team agreed to review the climate action plan once Brad M. releases the final draft for future discussion at our next meeting. The group will come prepared to debate how EAC can best slot into the CAP activities.

Meeting Adjourned around 8:00 PM