



## **Town of Barnstable Infrastructure and Energy Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Date: Monday, December 15, 2025, at 5:00PM**

*This meeting of the Barnstable Infrastructure & Energy Committee is being recorded and will be posted for future viewing on the Town of Barnstable website. Under MGL Chapter 30A Section 20, anyone else desiring to make such a recording or transmission must notify the Chair.*

#### *Remote Participation Instructions*

*The Infrastructure and Energy Committee's Public Hearing will be held by remote participation methods. Real-time public comment can be addressed to the Infrastructure & Energy Committee utilizing the Zoom link and access code for remote access below:*

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://townofbarnstable-us.zoom.us/j/81185779775?pwd=IWwpqaeEVrQXL3rbEwApX5INmtAB6b.1>

Meeting ID: 811 8577 9775

Passcode: 568500

#### **Infrastructure and Energy Committee Members Present: (On Zoom)**

Chris Gloninger, Chair; Ron Ruggiero; John Solomon; Jane Ward

#### **Infrastructure and Energy Committee Members Absent:**

#### **Others in Attendance: (On Zoom)**

Kelly Collopy, Communications Manager, Barnstable DPW; Gordon Starr, Town Council; Sean Hogan, Barnstable Sustainability Manager

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#### **Agenda:**

##### **Call to Order**

The December 15, 2025 meeting was called to order at 5:03 PM.

##### **Approval of December 1, 2025 Meeting Minutes – CONTINUED**

Continued to January 14, 2026 meeting; being conscious of guest presenter's time.

##### **Discussion with Barnstable Sustainability Manager, Sean Hogan**

Barnstable Sustainability Manager, Sean Hogan, provided a comprehensive presentation to

Committee members, outlining various green initiatives where members may be able to lend further support.

- **Vehicle Electrification**
  - The Town currently favors a leasing model. Sean proposes a switch from gas vehicle leases to EV purchases. For a modest fleet of 15 vehicles over 10 years this comes to: \$750,000 in savings and 100 tons CO2 avoided.
  - Where the Committee could help: helping to research/determine department needs (i.e. DPW gas-powered pick-up trucks that can be easily integrated into snow/ice weather emergencies) so we can right size vehicles and fleets, education, and public engagement.
- **Solar Canopy Outreach**
  - Sean has identified six (6) potential projects that equate to an average yearly savings potential of \$810,000, emissions reduction potential of 36%, and no up-front capital expenses.
  - Where the Committee could help: education and public engagement (i.e. some dislike the appearance of solar canopies, how can we overcome this?)
- **Battery Regulations**
  - Town currently bans chemical battery storage; however, this ban needs to be rewritten to allow batteries to be installed in a rational and safe manner
  - Where the Committee could help: education and public engagement (i.e. building support for the zoning ordinance amendment) and assistance in writing/reviewing ordinance amendment drafts (Carver, Medway, and Cape Cod Commission have language we could adapt).
- **Bike Infrastructure**
  - Summer intern deeply investigated the Town's current bike infrastructure and identified gaps we could fill; included related studies.
  - Highlighted economic, health, and climate benefits of well-connected bike infrastructure. Need to think about bikes as a true mode of transportation. There is a lot to be gained by having high-quality, safe bike infrastructure.
  - Where the Committee could help: once again, education and public engagement – project need, benefits, safety.
- **Food Waste/Composting**
  - 35.5 tons collected at Barnstable Transfer Station this year
  - Estimated cost of \$200 per ton paid to Watts Family Farms for services
  - School currently doesn't compost – big opportunity to mitigate carbon emissions if the Town could tackle this
  - Where the Committee could help: continued research into composting technology, capacity of Watts Family Farms to accept waste from school
    - John Solomon shared some of his work on this program and status of ongoing conversations with Transfer Station leadership and outreach to Watts Family Farm. Reinforced that we really need direction/support from Town Council. Committee intends to present to Town Council via a Workshop to communicate the need and benefit of expanding food waste/composting services throughout Town.

- Green Community Designation
  - With the Stretch Code approved, it's time to start working on the application.
  - Current 'to-do' list includes the fuel-efficient vehicle policy, solar audit, and energy reduction plan.
  - Where the Committee could help: solar data collection from Cape and Vineyard Electric Cooperative (CVEC).

#### **Old Business**

- a) Green Communities  
No additional significant updates; covered above in discussion with Sean.
- b) Food Waste  
No additional significant updates; covered above in discussion with Sean.
- c) Climate Change and Climate Science  
No additional significant updates.
- d) Air Quality Monitoring  
Jane Ward plans to meet with a national indoor air quality expert in January and will report back with resources and strategies for the Committee. Sais expert has drafted an international policy statement that indoor air quality should be a 'basic human right' and should have some valuable insight re: education and public engagement.
- e) Technology and Infrastructure  
Ron Ruggiero reports that GoNetSpeed is slated to start building out their planned infrastructure in Hyannis and West Yarmouth, it will be a 5-7 month construction timeline, with services anticipated by this Summer (targeting June or July). Additionally, Hyannis Youth and Community Center (HYCC) was awarded a \$100,000 grant to upgrade public Wi-Fi infrastructure. Additionally, Open Cape will be expanding some of their fiber network in Hyannis throughout 2026.

#### **New Business**

- a) Discussion of early 2026 meeting schedule; Wednesdays, once per month (approx. every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday):
  - Wednesday, January 14
  - Wednesday, February 18
  - Wednesday, March 11
- b) Assigned tasks:
  - Chair Chris Gloninger to send draft recruitment letter to remainder of the Committee for review and input

#### **Motion to Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by John Solomon, seconded by Ron Ruggiero. The December 15, 2025 Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM.

Next Meeting: January 14, 2026, at 5:00PM

**DRAFT Upcoming Agenda for January 14, 2026**

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of December 1, 2025 Meeting Minutes
3. Approval of December 15, 2025 Meeting Minutes
4. Old Business
  - a. Green Communities
    - i. Relevant Updates
  - b. Food Waste
    - i. Workshop Planning
    - ii. Relevant Updates
  - c. Air Quality Monitoring
    - i. Relevant Updates
  - d. Technology and Infrastructure
    - i. Relevant Updates
  - e. Climate Change and Climate Science
    - i. Relevant Updates
5. New Business
  - a. Committee Leadership Election
    - i. Nomination for Chair: Chris Gloninger
    - ii. Nomination for Vice Chair: Ron Ruggiero
  - b. Additional Updates from Committee Chair
    - i. Discussion/status of recruitment efforts
  - c. Assigned Tasks
6. Motion to Adjourn

**Respectfully submitted by Kelly Collopy, Communications Manager, Barnstable Department of Public Works**