



Town of Barnstable Infrastructure and Energy Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 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=IWwpaqEVRQXL3rbEwApx5INmtAB6b.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; Barry Sheingold, Town Council; Sean Hogan, Barnstable Sustainability Manager

Agenda:

Call to Order

The February 18, 2026 meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM.

Approval of January 14, 2026 Meeting Minutes

The Committee discussed the January 14, 2026 meeting minutes. Ron Ruggiero made a motion to approve, followed by a second from Jane Ward. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the January 14, 2026, meeting minutes.

Old Business

a) Green Communities

Sean Hogan, Barnstable Sustainability Manager, provided a brief update on the status of open items for the Green Community application. Hogan notes that the Town is still working on data collection as well as the required energy reduction plan. Assistance from Cape Light Compact is likely. Jane Ward offers her availability to assist with solar data collection and analysis; plans to connect with Hogan on next steps over the next week.

b) Food Waste

Preparation for the Town Council Workshop is ongoing. John Solomon is pursuing a meeting with DPW leadership, specifically Director Dan Santos and Transfer Station Supervisor Tracy Regazio, to discuss the intent of the workshop and immediate action items recommended for enhanced education and promotion/ public awareness of current composting services. Kelly Collopy, Committee staff liaison and DPW Communications Manager, to provide dates/times of DPW staff availability and will coordinate scheduling of meeting.

Cape Cod Coastal Community Composting Project

After continued inquiries, Solomon has finally received a copy of the feasibility study commissioned by Barnstable County's Cape Cod Cooperative Extension. Following the completion of a feasibility, the County and its partnering towns (Falmouth, Bourne, Mashpee and Sandwich) will now look to move forward with permitting, site acquisition and engineering for the proposed facility. They will also begin developing an intermunicipal agreement with Joint Base Cape Cod.

Other Areas of Focus Related to Food Waste

Solomon notes there are still additional avenues in which we can pursue food waste initiatives – specifically with big producers, such as the schools – adding that Sustainability Manager, Sean Hogan, has circulated a potential school-based opportunity he is aware of. Solomon also reiterates the opportunity that commercial food waste provides, recognizing there are challenges to enforcement and potential barriers to adoption (i.e. lack of local facility to accept compost at a reasonable choice).

Overall, Solomon is interested in brainstorming with Hogan on a clear ask(s) for the Town Council workshop, with the desire to make specific food waste recommendations that are actionable. With this, Jane Wards mentions the organic farm on Route 6A, inquiring about possible Town ownership and potential for this location to be a local site to facilitate a pilot program for more widespread food waste collection and composting. Perhaps this is a collaborative effort and something to engage with Black Earth on. This could lay the groundwork for a more strategic, community-wide effort.

Discussion also includes the potential for school visits, educational workshop(s) / talks, or a potential in-person, hands-on composting opportunity to help engage young people on the importance of composting for environmental health and climate change.

c) Climate Change and Climate Science

Chris Glonginer gave a recent talk for the Brewster Land Trust, Steve McKenna, Cape and

Islands Representative from CZM was there and they will be rolling out funding opportunities for coastal resiliency projects. Kelly Collopy, Committee staff liaison and Department of Public Works Communications Manager, did confirm that the Town looks at these grant opportunities closely (i.e. Sandy Neck Project). Amber Unruh, Senior Project Manager – Special Projects typically audits these opportunities and presents potential project options for grant application(s).

d) Air Quality Monitoring

No significant updates at this time. Jane Ward is still very interested in connecting with the air quality group, functioning as part of the Brown University's School of Public Health via the Pandemic Center Clean Indoor Air Initiative. Ward pursuing a meeting with the Clean Indoor Air Project team. (On September 2025 a convening of government leaders for a United Nations side event on Healthy Indoor Air, with lead country co-sponsors Montenegro and France, catalyzed global action and launched the Global Pledge for Healthy Indoor Air.) ward foresees the schools, Barnstable Adult Community Center, and Town Hall Hearing Room (Town Council meeting room) as prime candidates that can benefit from cleaner, high quality indoor air.

e) Technology and Infrastructure

No significant updates at this time. Ron Ruggiero and Jane Ward did attend the recent Cape Cod Tech Council meeting.

New Business

a) Additional Updates

Recruitment Efforts: Councilor Sheingold has shared a prospect; Ron Ruggiero also developed a list of potential folks to consider. The Committee discusses potential community members who have a shared interest and may be great candidates for Committee recruitment. Tech Council folks? Folks who participated in Green Community workshop – or colleagues?

b) Assigned Tasks

- John Solomon: Host call with Sean Hogan to discuss upcoming composting/ food waste discussion with DPW leadership and overall workshop structure.
- Jane Ward: Engage with Brown University Indoor Air Quality fellows/project team.
- Ron Ruggiero – drafted potential Green Community FAQs (Committee to review in more detail, provide feedback, etc.)

Motion to Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jane Ward, seconded by Ron Ruggiero. The February 18, 2026 Infrastructure and Energy Committee meeting was adjourned at 6:04 PM.

Next Meeting: March 11, 2026, at 5:00PM

DRAFT Upcoming Agenda for March 11, 2026

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of February 18, 2026 Meeting Minutes

3. 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
4. New Business
 - a. Additional Updates from Committee Chair
 - b. Scheduling of Spring/Summer 2026 Meetings
 - c. Assigned Tasks
5. Motion to Adjourn

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