



## Clean Energy Future Committee

Date: Friday, January 14, 2022

Time: 8:15 a.m.

Location: Conducted via remote participation (Zoom)

To register for the Zoom Meeting: [https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0rdugri8qG9KEUIMtheewRY72\\_fa3Kpsc](https://town-arlington-ma-us.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0rdugri8qG9KEUIMtheewRY72_fa3Kpsc)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Members of the public are asked to send written comment to Daniel Amstutz at [DAmstutz@town.arlington.ma.us](mailto:DAmstutz@town.arlington.ma.us) with a copy to Coralie Cooper at [coralie.cooper4@gmail.com](mailto:coralie.cooper4@gmail.com).

### **\*Notice to the Public on meeting privacy\***

In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology (e.g. "Zoom Bombing") all participants, including members of the public, wishing to participate via Zoom must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Please allow additional time to join the meeting. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by telephone at 929-436-2866 Meeting ID: 896 1680 4016.

Documents related to the below agenda items follow as attachments to this document.

### **Agenda**

8:15 – 8:20: Review & Approve Minutes from 12/3/2022 meeting.

8:20 – 8:45: Update on NZAP implementation from working group chairs.

8:45 – 9:20: Warrant article discussion (language below).

9:20 – 9:30: Next CEFC meeting.

Warrant article language for discussion and potential vote by the Committee:

### DRAFT Warrant Article Language for CEFC member review:

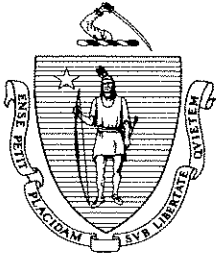
#### **Achieving Net Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Town Facilities**

Consistent with the Town of Arlington's Net Zero Action Plan, it shall be the policy of the Town to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions from municipal buildings. To that end, newly built Town of Arlington municipal buildings and Town of Arlington buildings undergoing major renovation shall be constructed or updated to include all-electric building systems and appliances. This

includes heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, hot water heaters, stoves, and other appliances. No fossil fuel-powered systems or appliances will be installed or used in newly constructed municipal buildings or buildings undergoing major renovation. In addition, newly constructed Town of Arlington buildings and Town of Arlington buildings undergoing major renovation shall meet the highest standards for energy efficiency that is practicable, shall include the installation of electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) and on-site solar panels, but at a minimum shall be designed to accommodate EVSE and onsite solar panels in the future (i.e., they shall be "EVSE ready" and "solar ready"). Should it be impractical or infeasible to meet any of these requirements, a technical and economic analysis should be conducted and submitted to the Town, and the newly built or renovated facilities shall be electrified, to the greatest extent technically and economically feasible.

Attachments:

- 1) Governor Charles Baker's 3/12/2020 Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law
- 2) Draft minutes from 12/03/2021 meeting



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133  
(617) 725-4000

**CHARLES D. BAKER**  
GOVERNOR

**KARYN E. POLITO**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**ORDER SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS  
OF THE OPEN MEETING LAW, G. L. c. 30A, § 20**

**WHEREAS**, on March 10, 2020, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared that there now exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”); and

**WHEREAS**, many important functions of State and Local Government are executed by “public bodies,” as that term is defined in G. L. c. 30A, § 18, in meetings that are open to the public, consistent with the requirements of law and sound public policy and in order to ensure active public engagement with, contribution to, and oversight of the functions of government; and

**WHEREAS**, both the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (“DPH”) have advised residents to take extra measures to put distance between themselves and other people to further reduce the risk of being exposed to COVID-19. Additionally, the CDC and DPH have advised high-risk individuals, including people over the age of 60, anyone with underlying health conditions or a weakened immune system, and pregnant women, to avoid large gatherings.

**WHEREAS**, sections 7, 8, and 8A of Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 authorize the Governor, during the effective period of a declared emergency, to exercise authority over public assemblages as necessary to protect the health and safety of persons; and

**WHEREAS**, low-cost telephone, social media, and other internet-based technologies are currently available that will permit the convening of a public body through virtual means and allow real-time public access to the activities of the public body; and

**WHEREAS** section 20 of chapter 30A and implementing regulations issued by the Attorney General currently authorize remote participation by members of a public body, subject to certain limitations;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I hereby order the following:

(1) A public body, as defined in section 18 of chapter 30A of the General Laws, is hereby relieved from the requirement of section 20 of chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body for interested members of the public through adequate, alternative means.

Adequate, alternative means of public access shall mean measures that provide transparency and permit timely and effective public access to the deliberations of the public body. Such means may include, without limitation, providing public access through telephone, internet, or satellite enabled audio or video conferencing or any other technology that enables the public to clearly follow the proceedings of the public body while those activities are occurring. Where allowance for active, real-time participation by members of the public is a specific requirement of a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, pursuant to which the proceeding is conducted, any alternative means of public access must provide for such participation.

A municipal public body that for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts is unable to provide alternative means of public access that will enable the public to follow the proceedings of the municipal public body as those activities are occurring in real time may instead post on its municipal website a full and complete transcript, recording, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as practicable upon conclusion of the proceedings. This paragraph shall not apply to proceedings that are conducted pursuant to a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, that requires allowance for active participation by members of the public.

A public body must offer its selected alternative means of access to its proceedings without subscription, toll, or similar charge to the public.

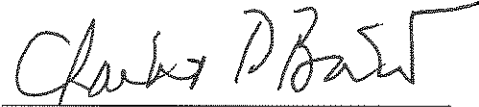
(2) Public bodies are hereby authorized to allow remote participation by all members in any meeting of the public body. The requirement that a quorum of the body and the chair be physically present at a specified meeting location, as provided in G. L. c. 30A, § 20(d) and in 940 CMR 29.10(4)(b), is hereby suspended.

(3) A public body that elects to conduct its proceedings under the relief provided in sections (1) or (2) above shall ensure that any party entitled or required to appear before it shall be able to do so through remote means, as if the party were a member of the public body and participating remotely as provided in section (2).

(4) All other provisions of sections 18 to 25 of chapter 30A and the Attorney General's implementing regulations shall otherwise remain unchanged and fully applicable to the activities of public bodies.

This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until rescinded or until the State of Emergency is terminated, whichever happens first.

Given in Boston at 6:40 PM this 12th day of  
March, two thousand and twenty.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles D. Baker". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## Clean Energy Future Committee Meeting Minutes

*Draft – for approval at the 1-14-2022 meeting*

December 3, 2021  
8:15 – 9:30 a.m.  
Virtually Conducted

Members present: Coralie Cooper (as Chair), Jim DiTullio, Dave Levy, Marc Breslow, Dan Amstutz, Adam Chapdelaine, Pasi Miettinen

Also attending: Amos Meeks, Pat Hanlon, Brucie Moulton

Members not present: Nellie Aikenhead, Diane Mahon, Shelly Dein, Ryan Katofsky

Ms. Cooper convened the meeting at 8:18 am. Ms. Cooper explained that emergency rules for the Open Meeting Law still allow public meetings to take place remotely, due to concerns about COVID-19, which suspended the usual Open Meeting Law requirement that a quorum of committee members be physically present in order to hold an official committee meeting. The Governor's original Executive Order had been superseded by recent legislation extending the ability for public meetings to be virtual until April 2022. Ms. Cooper then took a roll call for those in person and on the phone.

### Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the October 22, 2021 meeting and Ms. Cooper asked for any suggested changes or additions. Mr. DiTullio asked for one edit to correct a spelling error. There were no other changes suggested by Committee members. Mr. Miettinen motioned to approve the minutes. Mr. DiTullio seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously approved the October 22nd meeting minutes.

**Agenda Item 1:** Ms. Cooper notified the Committee that she moved from Arlington to Somerville at the end of October. She will remain as Chair through the April meeting, when the one-year term of the Chair will end. Afterwards, she will remain on the Committee. In other related Committee business, the replacement for Ken Pruitt is expected to start as soon as January 2022.

### Agenda Item 2: Warrant Article Discussion

Ms. Cooper stated there are several potential warrant articles for discussion during today's meeting. The first item is proposed warrant article language circulated before the meeting that Mr. Benson (member of the Arlington Redevelopment Board) provided

for consideration by the CEFC. The CEFC reviewed the language on the screen along with comments in the margin provided by several Committee members. Mr. Benson provided an overview of the language.

Mr. Benson turned to the first section (of three) of the proposed warrant articles. The first item would add a sentence to an already existing paragraph in section 3.4.4 of the zoning bylaw. Section 3.4.4 says that sustainable practices should be considered in the environmental design review process and the additional sentence would say “projects shall be consistent with the town’s Net Zero Action Plan.” The intent is to give the ARB more authority to implement the NZAP when considering a special permit.

The second potential warrant article item would add language to section 6, including a definition of solar energy systems and a requirement for solar energy systems for commercial buildings. The proposed language states that any project in the environmental design review process (most commercial buildings) would require a solar system on its roof for 50% unless it had a specific exemption. Regarding shading of solar energy systems, the proposed language states that if a proposed facility would shade more than 10% of the time, compensation would be required for the current system.

The Committee then turned to the comments in the margin provided by various Committee members. The Committee discussed a comment on parking garages. Mr. Breslow mentioned the possibility of having a peer review on the solar sections. Ms. Cooper asked if additional research is needed for the solar portions of the initiative noting that Watertown did a multi-year study. Mr. Benson said the study was largely for specific commercial buildings.

Mr. Levy asked a series of logistical questions around process. Mr. Benson said the CEFC could sponsor the warrant article(s) and attend the next ARB meeting to present the language to the ARB. The Committee discussed the fact that warrant articles must be filed by January 28, 2022. Thus, any planning to present to ARB would need to be done prior to that time.

Ms. Cooper then turned the discussion to a warrant article that would update an existing bylaw stating municipal buildings should be LEED Silver or better. The CEFC has discussed sponsoring a warrant article to update the language in previous CEFC meetings. Ms. Cooper said a sub-group is working on draft warrant article language and this would be circulated to the CEFC prior to the January meeting. During the January meeting, the proposed language will be discussed and the CEFC may vote to sponsor the warrant article.

### **Agenda Item 3: CEFC Working Group Updates**

Mr. Amos Meeks updated the CEFC on the development of a net zero stretch code. Mr. Meeks noted that the proposed language for the stretch code is expected to be released for public comment in January. Mr. Meeks said that the working group would focus on outreach and education to help people understand the benefits of a net zero stretch code. Mr. Meeks said Mr. Chapdelaine had obtained signatures from 30 municipalities

for a sign-on letter urging the Department of Energy Resources to develop a net zero stretch code. Mr. Miettinen complimented Mr. Chapdelaine's work to get numerous municipalities to support the release of the stretch code and stated a net zero stretch code for new building construction will make Arlington's work to achieve the NZAP easier. Mr. Hanlon discussed a phased approach about the release of the stretch code and said that the timeline for a stretch code is still uncertain. Mr. Hanlon said a resolution sponsored by Arlington, along with other municipalities, would be helpful. Mr. Miettinen voiced support for Mr. Hanlon's recommendation on a resolution.

Ms. Cooper updated the Committee on Electrify Arlington (EA) and the development of an EA website and coaching service for outreach to town residents. Ms. Cooper said the EA workgroup had begun discussing the website with the Town's communication director and once Mr. Pruitt's replacement has started work, the EA workgroup will work with him/her on the website development and coaching program.

#### **Agenda Item 4: Presentation by Dan Amstutz on Connect Arlington**

Ms. Cooper then turned to Connect Arlington, the Town's Sustainable Transportation Plan. Mr. Amstutz presented the plan, which provides goals and strategies to improve transportation within Arlington over the next 20 years. First and foremost, the plan prioritizes walking, cycling, and public transportation over single-occupancy vehicle travel. This would accomplish improvements in safety as well as carbon reduction.

Mr. Amstutz noted that there are ways to design roads to help pedestrians, bicyclists, and public transportation. In addition, Mr. Amstutz highlighted curb and parking management strategies to help people to travel more efficiently and safely. Mr. Amstutz then noted the specific strategies to implement the plan and metrics to track the success of implementation.

Mr. Levy asked Mr. Amstutz about federal funding for some (or all) of the initiatives. Mr. Amstutz noted there has been federal funding coming from the State to help with quick initiatives. Mr. Amstutz then noted there could be more federal funding coming from sources such as the recently passed Infrastructure Bill. The Town will continue to look for grant funding for transportation projects in Arlington.

#### **Agenda Item 5: Scheduling Next CEFC Meeting**

Ms. Cooper and asked if the Members could make January 14<sup>th</sup> as a date. The Members present agreed that would work.

The Committee then motioned and unanimously voted to adjourn the Meeting at 9:29am.

Submitted by Dave Levy.