

MONTAGUE ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday April 22, 2025, 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM

Due to COVID-19 Public Participation will be by Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81889308016?pwd=aT2Cf0z9GDYqNQQ0ErlZsTEXLiG5Nm.1>
Meeting ID: 818 8930 8016 Passcode: 901560 +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Votes May Be Taken

Designate facilitator and scribe, roll call of members who are present 4:32 PM.

Chris Mason Regional Coordinator, Green Communities: becoming a Climate Leader Community. 4:35 PM

- Discussion about strategies
 - What carrots are there?
 - Potential grant funding if become CLC
 - Can use to pay for municipal solar, if federal direct payments not available?
 - Other possible projects that can be funded?
 - How often can Town apply for CLC grant?
 - Will grant amounts decrease as more municipalities become CLCs?
 - When does standard or Stretch (?) building code change to having same requirements as Specialized Opt-In Stretch Code?
- Are Accessory Dwelling Units affected by the required Opt-In Stretch Code?
- Data, case studies available share to back up claim that added cost of construction is recovered in energy cost savings?

Discussion with Chris Nolan-Zeller, Asst. Town Administrator exploring possibility of becoming a Climate Leader Community. 5:00 PM

- Talk about strategies and steps to introducing CLC requirements to select board, residents at a public forum, & Town Meeting.
 - Continue to look at FAQs, other resource documents from Ashfield, Mass. Climate Action Network (MCAN) [webpages](#) and MCAN/Sierra Club [toolkit](#) on adopting the Specialized Opt-In Stretch Code and discuss what we want to prepare.
 - Resources to help gather Town energy use and input into Mass Energy Insight
 - Building Electrification Accelerator (BEA) staff and/or intern?
 - [Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap Tech. Assistance](#) grant, due 7/ 25

General updates and Discussion with Chris Nolan-Zeller, Asst. Town Administrator. 5:10 PM

- Update on Building Decarbonization Roadmap for nine Town facilities, funded by the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) from DOER.

Approve minutes from March 25, 2025 MEC meeting (vote). 5:15 PM

State & federal level energy-related policies & legislation updates. 5:20 PM.

Community Planning For Solar with U. Mass. Clean Energy. Ext. 5:25 PM

- * Approach land trusts re: protecting high value conservation lands that could be sited for large arrays.
- Status of 30% incentive payments for municipalities/other nonprofits in place of tax credit, and of tax credits for residential and commercial solar.
- Depending on above status, approach big companies re: PV panels on roofs, canopies on parking lots?

Schools and Energy. 5:30 PM

Energy Related Town Facility Updates. 5:35 PM

- MA Building Electrification Accelerator (BEA) offer to help Montague explore town building electrification: ideas of buildings to explore with them.
- Information on net zero & energy efficient techniques, including embodied carbon.

Helping Town Prioritize Energy-Saving Projects for Upcoming State & Federal Grants. 5:40PM

[Energy Saver Home Loan Program \(ESHLP\)](#) and promotion of program. 5:43 PM

- Letter to Montague Reporter Editor?

Recruiting more Energy Committee members. 5:45 PM

Adding missing approved minutes to the Town web site. 5:50 PM

Other topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance of meeting. 5:54 PM

Announcements (no discussion). 5:56 PM

Plan agenda for next meeting. 5:58 PM