

TOWN of Kennebunk  
**NOTES** (Summary Highlights & Decisions)  
**Energy Efficiency Committee Meeting**  
June 12, 2019: 5:30 – 6:45 PM

Present: Staz, Negley, M & N Bartenhagen, Dater, Karytko (Select Board Liaison).

MINUTES: Approved as amended 3/27th KEEC Minutes, 4/10th and 4/17th SLSC Notes.

**MAYORS' CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVE** - On May 20th M. Bartenhagen accompanied teachers Ally Muir and Brad Lopes and students of TNS on a tour by Bryan Laverriere of the Department of Public Services (DPS) pertaining to the student's greenhouse gas (GHG) emission study and data collection for their work with KEEC on the ICLEI (International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives) ClearPath program. Three first steps Laverriere stated for GHG reduction at the DPS are: (1) replace existing 60% efficient oil-fired heaters in their truck work bays with more efficient (90%) propane heaters; (2) new DPS buildings at the Sea Road facility and stormwindow inserts at Town Hall especially in the auditorium; (3) reform DPS's vehicle fuel purchase procedure from documentation of bulk purchases to individual vehicle purchases to better track emissions of GHG.

On May 21st M. Bartenhagen, TNS teachers and students toured the Town Hall Fire Station with Captain Nathan Howe. First steps Howe stated for saving energy: (1) more insulation needed at the Town Hall/Fire Station; (2) Washington Hose needs remodeling/refurbishing or other serious energy efficiency efforts. A full report by Maggie Bartenhagen of the two visits is available by contacting the EEC.

At a meeting on May 31st, M. and N. Bartenhagen made suggestions on a presentation being prepared TNS students on their ClearPath GHG collection program. On June 10th M. Bartenhagen and Staz helped refine the students' slide show. On June 11th the Selectmen were supportive of TNS student presentation and urged going forward with the program and are awaiting recommendations on how to proceed with GHG reduction in town.

**BALLOON BAN ORDINANCE** –The Ordinance was approved decisively at the June 2019 Town Meeting (about 800 for; about 300 against). An educational program for local businesses and citizens is now needed to implement the ban. The energy Committee is waiting to decide on how best to aid this effort.

**STREET LIGHT SUBCOMMITTEE** – Staz is trying to revive a KLPD (Kennebunk Light & Power District) liaison to the Energy committee. She, including Dater and any other interested members, is setting up a meeting with Todd Shea of KLPD to review the street lights in Lower Village and designate a stretch of dark road, yet to be selected, for the six LED test lights recommended by the Committee for field-testing pursuant to the approved updated street light policies. These will be up for public review and comment.

**H. R. 763** – At their May 14th meeting, N. Bartenhagen reviewed the Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Bill (HR 763) introduced into the U.S. House of Representatives in February 2019, requesting that the members of the Board review the outline he prepared and consider joining other governing bodies of Maine communities to formally endorse this bill. Unable to attend the next Selectboard meeting on May 28th, he emailed the Board members, offering to field any questions they might have about the bill.

Unable to attend the May 28th Board meeting, N. Bartenhagen reviewed and transcribed the video of that meeting, and submits herein an excerpted synopsis of the Board's deliberation and discussion from that segment of the video running from 1:10:45 through 1:30:13.

Selectman Baldwin expressed concern that though the Town Charter did not countenance such a formal Board of Selectmen endorsement of a Federal bill, neither did it explicitly preclude it. However, although concurring with the purpose/merits of the bill, he did not personally view it within the Board's jurisdictional purview to do formerly endorse it. Selectman Schulte emphasized that a Federal-level approach to levy a nationally-implemented fee on carbon-dioxide as proposed in HR 763 would systematically, efficiently and effectively reduce carbon dioxide levels and should be considered for endorsement. Selectman Karytko stated that he felt he needed more time to study the elements of the bill

before he could make a conclusive decision as to whether or not to endorse it. Committee Chair Staz posited that if the Town endorses fire safety regulations and similar federal regulations why could it not endorse the concept of a carbon tax regulation? Committee Member Dater stated that such a vote simply would place on the record whether the Town supports the idea of a federal carbon tax or not.

B. Baldwin observed that the Board's prior unanimous vote to fully support the KEEC/New School's participation in the Global Covenant of Mayors' extensive and detailed study of the Town of Kennebunk's total "carbon footprint" effectively endorsed the town's engagement in mitigating the threat posed by climate change, which he believe does fall within the jurisdictional scope of the Board, implicitly exemplifying the "think globally, act locally" philosophy of engagement in climate change mitigation.

Discussion then turned to how to proceed on this issue. Selectman Schulte moved to table the issue until their July meeting, at which point the Board might perhaps consider the possibility of placing the issue of endorsing HR 763 on November's ballot for the citizenry to vote on. His motion was seconded by Selectman Baldwin and then unanimously affirmed by the Board.

**YORK ENERGY COMMITTEE** – Recently M. Bartenhagen and Staz answered questions by email from the York Committee enquiring how Kennebunk became a member of the Mayors' Covenant on Climate change. York also asked about additional background information on the benefits to Kennebunk of being a member. M. Bartenhagen informed them about the Covenant and its newsletter, its website for information, how it lends credibility to towns on climate mitigation efforts by putting towns actively in control of the process, provides marketing/branding and saves money for towns. The York Committee will go to our website to view TNS students' presentation on GHG data collection in advance of its proposal for York to join the Mayors' Covenant on June 24th.

York needs to update its sea level rise/storm surge assessment and suggests a joint project with Ogunquit, Wells and Kennebunk - a regional approach with state help using Gulf of Maine data and an ICLEI tool.

N. Bartenhagen wondered how to integrate climate change mitigation with economic development? There is no Kennebunk Economic Development Director at present. The Maine Climate Table approach was sponsored in York on how to talk to Mainers about climate change. Kennebunk should also consider using this approach.

**WASTE & RECYCLING** - The Ordinance subcommittee of the Select Board will hold a meeting at 5:30 on June 25th before the regular meeting of the Board to discuss the PAYT program. The DPS does not have enough personnel to adequately police the situation. Should Kennebunk move to a system like Camden that relies on individual recycling and trash disposal or remain with a town administered curbside pick-up system?

**MOTION** – (Dater/N. Bartenhagen) KEEC supports a TNS teacher and students during summer 2019 – with funding from our budget if needed - to continue the ICLEI GHG data collection program after discussion with the Town Manager for town support. Staz and M. Bartenhagen are authorized to meet with Town Manager or Finance Director to spend \$1,500 of the EEC funds for this New School effort. Approved unanimously.

Next Meeting: July 10th, 6:30, 3rd floor Town Hall.