

**Town Of Truro
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Energy Committee Minutes**

February 13, 2023

The Energy Committee held a meeting on February 13, 2023, convened via GoToMeeting at 4:30p. Attending were Brian Boyle (Chair), Mark Farber, Bob Higgins-Steele, David Spencer, and Lindsey Wilson, being a quorum of the Committee. Jarrod Cabral, DPU Director, also joined the meeting.

Town Update. Jarrod provided an update on the Capital Improvement Program. The new vehicle database is getting close to launch.

Jarrod left the meeting, and Carol Harris joined, representing the Climate Action Committee.

Minutes of the January 9, 2022 meeting were approved. Bob requested that documents referenced during minutes be made available to the public via the Town website Energy Committee page.

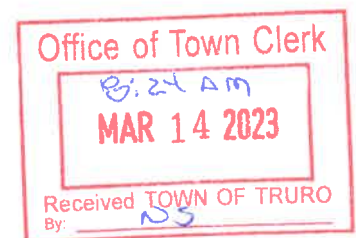
Whole Government Approach. Carol summarized the Whole Government Approach Implementation Plan, drafted by the Climate Action Committee for review by the Energy Committee. The draft Implementation Plan was discussed but not finalized. Further discussion and work on the Implementation Plan was tabled.

Carol left the meeting. Chris Clark joined the meeting, representing the Local Comprehensive Plan Committee.

The EC agreed to submit comments to Brian within 10 days on the draft WGA Implementation Plan.

Local Comprehensive Plan (LCP). Chris Clark described Truro's process of developing a LCP. The LCP is supposed to be updated every 10 years as a vision statement for the Town. We discussed the scope and process for creating a LCP and agreed to continue work on it.

Energy Code. The Committee discussed the status of the energy code proposal. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Committee unanimously endorsed the proposed Town Meeting warrant article to adopt the Specialized Energy Code and Bylaw as put forth in the document titled Specialized Energy Code Adoption dated 2/7/2023 (Document herewith below). The Committee will address questions about the code that have been raised by Town administration.



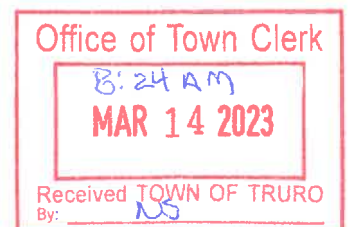
The next meeting is scheduled for March 13, 2023 at 4:30p. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30p.

Mark A Farber

Mark A Farber

Attachments:

The article and bylaw



Specialized Energy Code Adoption

Article

To see if the Town will vote to replace Chapter IX of the Town of Truro General Bylaws, entitled "Stretch Energy Code" with "Specialized Energy Code" for the purpose of regulating the design and construction of buildings for the effective use of energy and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, pursuant to 225 CMR 22 and 23 including Appendices RC and CC, including future editions, amendments or modifications thereto, with an effective date of January 1, 2024, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, or take any other action relative thereto.

Commentary

The Town voted at the 2022 Annual Town meeting to adopt Article 53 "to have the Select Board charge the Climate Action Committee and Energy Committee to work with other pertinent Town committees to define a Carbon Net Zero standard for new construction and deliver that standard for approval to Town Meeting."

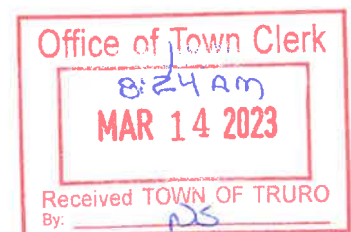
Since that vote, the updated Stretch Code, which is mandatory for Green Communities like Truro, and the Specialized Energy Code were written by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER), as per the 2021 Climate Law, AN ACT CREATING A NEXT-GENERATION ROADMAP FOR MASSACHUSETTS CLIMATE POLICY. The two codes are very similar. DOER Specialize Energy code defines Net-zero Building as:

"A building which is consistent with achievement of MA 2050 net zero emissions, through a combination of highly energy efficient design together with being an all-electric or Zero Energy Building, or where fossil fuels are utilized, a building fully pre-wired for future electrification and that generates solar power on-site from the available Potential Solar Zone Area.

The Committees have been participating in the Specialized Energy Code discussions with DOER and believe that the resulting Specialized Energy Code will meet the Net Zero goals of Truro voters for new construction, while providing a cost-effective means to doing so. By adopting this standardized state code, the Town should have access to state resources for education and implementation assistance.

One example of meeting the Specialized Energy Code is to follow the Passive House Pathway which ensures an energy efficient building. The Cloverleaf Developer reviewed the Passive House Pathway in the Specialized code, found it to be cost effective, and adopted it.

Energy Committee 5-0-0
Climate Action Committee []



CHAPTER IX SPECIALIZED ENERGY CODE

§ 9-1 DEFINITIONS

International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) – The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is a building energy code created by the International Code Council. It is a model code adopted by many state and municipal governments in the United States for the establishment of minimum design and construction requirements for energy efficiency, and is updated on a three-year cycle. The baseline energy conservation requirements of the MA State Building Code are the IECC with Massachusetts amendments, as approved by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards and published in state regulations as part of 780 CMR.

Specialized Energy Code – Codified by the entirety of 225 CMR 22 and 23 including Appendices RC and CC, the Specialized Energy Code adds residential and commercial appendices to the Massachusetts Stretch Energy Code, based on amendments to the respective net-zero appendices of the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) to incorporate the energy efficiency of the Stretch energy code and further reduce the climate impacts of buildings built to this code, with the goal of achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions from the buildings sector no later than 2050.

Stretch Energy Code - Codified by the combination of 225 CMR 22 and 23¹, not including Appendices RC and CC, the Stretch Energy Code is a comprehensive set of amendments to the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) seeking to achieve all lifecycle cost-effective energy efficiency in accordance with the Green Communities Act of 2008, as well as to reduce the climate impacts of buildings built to this code.

§ 9-2 PURPOSE

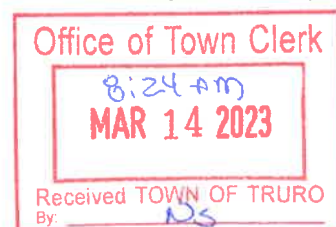
The purpose of 225 CMR 22.00 and 23.00 including Appendices RC and CC, also referred to as the Specialized Energy Code is to provide a more energy efficient and low greenhouse gas emissions alternative to the Stretch Energy Code or the baseline Massachusetts Energy Code, applicable to the relevant sections of the building code for both new construction and existing buildings.

§ 9-3 APPLICABILITY

This energy code applies to residential and commercial buildings.

§ 9-4 SPECIALIZED CODE

The Specialized Code, as codified by the entirety of 225 CMR 22 and 23 including Appendices RC and CC, including any future editions, amendments, or modifications, is herein incorporated by reference into the Town of Truro General Bylaws, Chapter IX.



The Specialized Code is enforceable by the inspector of buildings or building commissioner.

[Adopted MM-DD-2023 ATM by Article ____]

REFERENCES:

https://www.truro-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif3936/f/uploads/gen_by-law_body_as_of_2021_atm_0.pdf

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/summary-document-explaining-stretch-energy-code-and-specialized-opt-in-code-language/download>

[mass.gov/doc/guidance-for-specialized-energy-code-adoption/download](https://www.mass.gov/doc/guidance-for-specialized-energy-code-adoption/download)

