



NANTUCKET TOWN ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

November 15, 2022, at 4:00 pm

Meeting held by Zoom conferencing

DRAFT MINUTES FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Attendance (Participants as noted by Zoom): Trish Bridier, Barbara Cohen, Mary Anne Easley, Mary Longacre, Craig Muhlhauser, Gail Norton, Bill Seay, Anne Terry, Henry Terry, Barbara von der Groeben, and Charley Walters.

Guest: Lauren Sinatra, Nantucket Energy Coordinator, Ben Twombly, WPI, Samantha Aguiar, Atheneum.

Thanks to the Atheneum, Samantha Aguiar, for hosting the meeting. which was recorded and the link to YouTube is included here: <https://youtu.be/CphQJrBDSqY> .

I. Call the November 15, 2022, Nantucket Town Association Annual Meeting to Order.

President Henry Terry called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. He announced that the meeting is being recorded and those who could not attend are welcome to use the above link to watch the recording. He also announced that, to avoid conflicts with the Open Meeting Law, there would be no discussion of the Nantucket Town small area plan because members of that working group are in attendance at today's meeting and no agenda for it has been posted.

II. Approval of minutes of the Meeting of October 25, 2022.

Henry Terry asked for approval of the minutes of the meeting of October 25, 2022; Anne Terry moved approval of the minutes, Trish Bridier seconded them, and the vote to approve was unanimous.

III. Treasurer's Report.

Mary Longacre, Treasurer, gave the Treasurer's report, attached. There were dues payments of \$85.00 and a PayPal fee deduction of \$3.08, which made a new balance of \$4025.42. She related that, after a brief period of orientation, she felt that she understood how PayPal works. A motion to approve was made by Anne Terry, seconded by Barbara von der Groeben, and

approved unanimously.

IV. Old Business.

None.

V. New Business.

Henry Terry reminded the group that there had been a discussion at an earlier meeting to raise dues to cover the fees charged by PayPal. He suggested that this matter be deferred to the January meeting so as to give the Treasurer a chance to study the PayPal fee structure. Trish Bridier asked if the fee was a flat percentage or a base charge plus a percentage. The response was that this is not known and is part of what will be studied. There was agreement to postpone the question of dues until the January meeting.

VI. Guest Speaker. Lauren Sinatra, Nantucket Energy Coordinator.

Henry Terry introduced Lauren Sinatra, Nantucket Energy Coordinator, to speak on energy issues before the Town. She quickly opened up a PowerPoint slide show (attached) and spoke first about energy usage on Nantucket. The video includes details not found on the slides. She related that residential use hit an all-time high of 55 megawatts on August 8, 2020. Energy for cooling was a major factor in this peak. At the same time, the Town has reduced its energy demand by three percent in one year, with the building energy usage falling by 19 percent since 2018. Energy costs will rise significantly in the next year; she recommended that home owners take advantage of the MassSave program to see how they might reduce energy demand in their homes. She also gave tips on winterizing one's home to save on heating bills. Most home owners on Nantucket participate in the Town's Electric Aggregation Program, Nantucket PowerChoice, and save over National Grid's standard rate. A look at one's power bill will show if the home's supplier is PowerChoice. She suggested that homeowners consider moving to solar power for their homes and showed various tax and rebate incentives for doing so. In addition, the Commonwealth's building codes will be amended to include the Stretch Energy Code that requires improved energy performance.

She then moved briefly to municipal studies and programs to save power including a study of Dark-Skies friendly LED street lamps and solar arrays at the South Shore sewer plant and Wannacomet Water Company. National Grid is studying fleet electrification and the wind power farms are progressing, in one case to laying cable and in the other two to progress in permitting and planning. At this point, she volunteered to answer questions about the above material. Mary Longacre asked about the incentives and whether or not she should delay a planned solar project until 2023. The answer, essentially, was that if the invoice and billing was in 2023, she should be eligible for the incentives. She did emphasize, though, that tax questions should be posed to a Chartered Public Accountant, CPA, for accurate answers. Mary Anne Easley asked about Nantucket PowerChoice and the recommendation that Nantucketers should participate. Lauren Sinatra replied by saying that a very large percentage of Nantucketers are participants in that program and she might well be. A quick look at the second page of one's power bill, which contains the name of the supplier, will tell if PowerChoice is it. Craig

Muhlhauser asked if commercial and industrial entities on Nantucket are eligible for PowerChoice. Yes, definitely was the reply. He then asked about the hospital to which Lauren Sinatra said that she was not sure about its supplier but thought that they may have made alternative arrangements. He then asked about the future for energy costs to which Lauren Sinatra said that distribution costs will probably continue to rise but that she was less certain about supply costs. The latter will depend upon the degree to which the public switches to renewables and alternative generation. Mary Longacre asked about the number of solar installations that have been made on Nantucket and Lauren Sinatra said that this question was an excellent segue to the next part of the presentation, namely a presentation by four Worcester Polytechnic Institute, WPI, students on the use of solar power on Nantucket.

Ben Twombly started the solar presentation with a slide that answered the earlier question on the number of solar panels on Nantucket: beginning in 2007, it has now reached 212 units. The next slide was a map of Nantucket with a symbol imposed for each installation. It could be seen that they cover the Island, although the Residential Old Historic and the 'Sconset Old Historic Districts, with their stricter HDC installation guidelines, have only one or two each. The project team is examining these guidelines to see where there may be compliance problems that can be addressed. They are devising a public survey that is designed to learn the public's interest in solar. They have also examined solar regulations in 62 communities in Massachusetts that are of a historic nature. Only 23 have specific regulations, 14 mention solar only in their general utility regulations, and 25 have no reference at all to solar. They ended their presentation with sample questions from the survey. There was no response to an invitation to ask questions or to submit additional items for the survey. Several association members spoke of their experiences when installing solar and said that they had had no undue problems and were particularly pleased by the help that they got from the local installer. A final question was about future improvements to solar panels. Lauren Sinatra started her answer by saying that there has been a substantial improvement in efficiency with higher and higher power outputs per panel. She expects this trend to continue. Solar shingles have not yet reached the point where their appearance is compatible with existing Nantucket roof shingle applications. She added, though, that they have improved along with the panels and is hopeful that there may be a place for them on Nantucket soon. She said that their survey will be ready in the next week or two and hoped that the Nantucket Town Association will circulate it to its members.

VII. Other Business.

Henry Terry asked if there was any other business to bring before the association. Hearing none he asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

VIII. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:41 pm by motion from Barbara von der Groeben, seconded by Anne Terry, and approved unanimously.

***Next meeting is January 24, 2023, and will be via Zoom unless a decision to hold an in-person meeting is made; more information will be forthcoming with the next agenda; if**

one uses Zoom, registration is available at the following address:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwrcOCsqj0iH9CoJJCY4FXOdz-tHfyynBrX>.

Lee W. Saperstein, Secretary, saperste@mst.edu.

DRAFT

Nantucket Town Association, November 15, 2022

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance at last report: \$3,943.50

Dues Received \$ 20.00 * through Paypal
 \$ 40.00 * through Paypal
 \$ 25.00

Total Income \$ 85.00

Expenses:


Paypal Fees: \$ -3.08

Balance as of 11/15/22: \$4,025.42 (pendng transfer of \$56.92 from Paypal)

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Longacre, NTA Treasurer

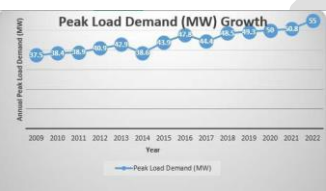
TOWN OF NANTUCKET ENERGY OFFICE



Nantucket Energy Update

Nantucket Town Association Meeting
November 15, 2022

Presented by:
Lauren Sinatra
Energy Coordinator
Town of Nantucket
2 Fairgrounds Road
Lsinatra@nantucket-ma.gov




Peak Load Demand (MW) Growth

Annual Peak Load Demand (MW)

Year

— Peak Load Demand (MW)


TOWN OF NANTUCKET ENERGY OFFICE



Island's Energy Usage & Costs Rising to Historic levels

- Nantucket's demand for electricity hit an all-time high "peak load" on Monday, August-8th at 4pm
 - 55MW, which is an 8% increase over last year's record 51MW!
 - 80% of peak load is residential, we all play a part
- Meanwhile, energy costs have risen 300% this winter
- Both present an opportunity to take advantage of key programs to increase energy efficiency, invest in renewable energy and save on traditional energy costs.

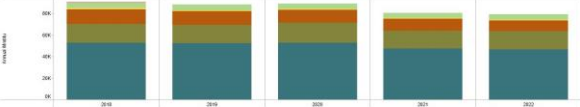
TOWN OF NANTUCKET ENERGY OFFICE



Town Progress Report


- When normalized for weather patterns, the Town used 79,200 MMBTu in FY2022 (3% less than in FY2021), at a total cost of \$2,993,353 for all power and fuel (4% higher than in FY2021).
- Since 2018, municipal buildings have seen a 19 percent decrease MMBTUs
- 2020 "Green Community Designation" commitments & program benefits
- \$300,000+ in grant funds to support energy upgrades at municipal properties

Disclaimer: Weather Normalized 2018 Baseline Year, Fiscal Year (July 1 start). Only lines marked with a Category of "Building" are run through the weather-normalization process. For more information about the methodology please see the FAQ. This chart includes buildings marked as include from Baseline.



	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total	81	88,097	81,146	80,087	79,200
Building	52,091	52,479	52,716	47,382	46,540
Other Energy	1,550	6,276	2,676	4,387	4,084
Street/Lights/Lights	881	881	881	881	884
Landfill	13,089	12,861	12,871	16,288	14,844
Other/Transfer	11,190	16,600	16,800	16,844	17,208
Grand Total	80,481	88,097	81,146	80,087	79,200

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Energy Saving Tips for Residents

- Energy Efficiency Programs and Rebates**
 - Take advantage of the vast number of [Mass Save](#) programs available to residents and businesses, including no-cost energy assessments and generous incentives on weatherization, lighting, HVAC equipment, water heaters, wifi thermostats, and appliances.
 - December Energy Assessments now being scheduled
 - Generous rebates up to \$10,000 for high-efficiency [air-source heat pumps](#)
 - Visit the [Mass Save Marketplace](#) to access instant discounts and deals on lighting, appliances, smart thermostats, and more.
- Tips to Winterize your Home:**
 - When home, set your thermostat to 68° or less and decrease it 7 to 10° each time you leave the house for two or more hours, and then again when you go to sleep at night.
 - If you have a condensing boiler or an air-source heat pump ("minisplit"), leave your thermostat set at a low, but comfortable temperature. These technologies efficiently adjust in response to the changing outdoor temperature.
 - Schedule an annual tune-up of your heating system and clean out filters regularly
 - Open window shades during the day to capture warmth and close them at night to prevent heat loss.
 - While space heaters provide extra warmth to chilly corners or rooms, just remember they are expensive to run and not intended to replace home heating systems.

TOWN OF NANTUCKET ENERGY OFFICE

Other Ways to Save



If your home is already energy efficient, consider the following programs to save on energy costs this fall and winter:

- Enroll in the Town's Electric Aggregation Program, **Nantucket PowerChoice**, which supports clean local energy projects and offers a supply rate 67% less than National Grid's winter basic service. Learn more here: www.nantucketpower.org
- Consider going solar and take advantage of a newly increased 30% federal investment tax credit and the Town's local solar rebate, up to \$6,000.
- Stay tuned for new 2023 tax incentives and rebates through the Inflation Reduction Act and 2022 Climate Bill for:
 - Energy Efficiency Home Improvements (annual tax credit up to \$1,200)
 - Air-source heat pumps (minisplits), water heaters, electric panel upgrades, weatherization, exterior windows and doors.
 - Electric Vehicles: State and Federal incentives

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Other Energy Initiatives in Progress

- **LED Streetlighting Feasibility Study**
 - The Town received a **\$10,000 grant** from The ReMain Nantucket Fund to engage a professional lighting consultant to conduct an LED Streetlight Conversion Feasibility Assessment.
 - Final report expected later this month will estimate LED project costs and savings and recommend specifications for new lighting fixtures for both National Grid's overhead streetlighting and the Town's decorative streetlamps.
 - 2200K Pilot LED on Main Street, seeing public feedback

LED Streetlamp Demonstration on Main Street

2200K in color; located outside of "Town Pool"

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Other Energy Initiatives in Progress

- **Energy "Stretch Code" Coming in 2023**
 - The Commonwealth's building codes are being updated for 2023, and first to change is the [Stretch Energy Code](#), which has been adopted by 299 municipalities and will require increased energy performance for new construction projects. Learn More: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/building-energy-code>
- **Offshore Wind Activity:** (www.Nantucket-ma.gov/offshorewind)
 - Vineyard Wind has started installing cabling
 - Mayflower Wind will start to conduct public meetings in December
 - Offshore Wind Community Fund coming in Spring 2023!
- **Fleet Electrification Study, sponsored by National Grid**
- **Municipal Solar Projects:**
 - A **106.2 KW** roof-mounted system at the Surfside Wastewater Treatment Plant and a **3.8MW** ground-mounted solar farm at the Wannacomet Water Company property, located on 1 Milestone Road.
 - Contracts in negotiation

TOWN OF NANTUCKET ENERGY OFFICE

Questions?

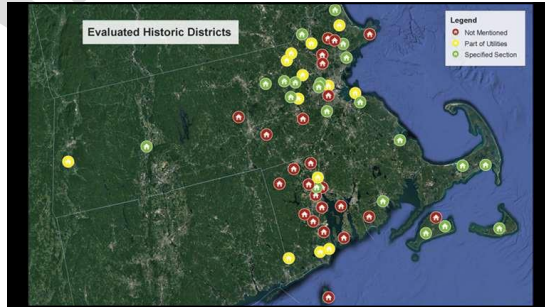
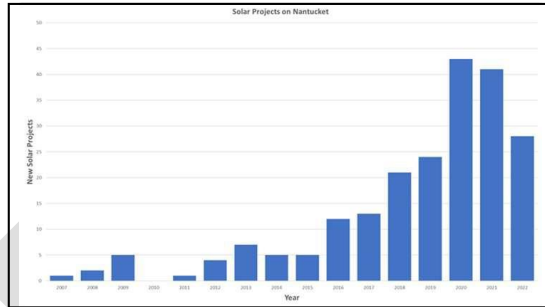
Lauren M. Sinatra
Energy Coordinator
Town of Nantucket; Energy Office 2
Fairgrounds Road
Nantucket, MA 02554

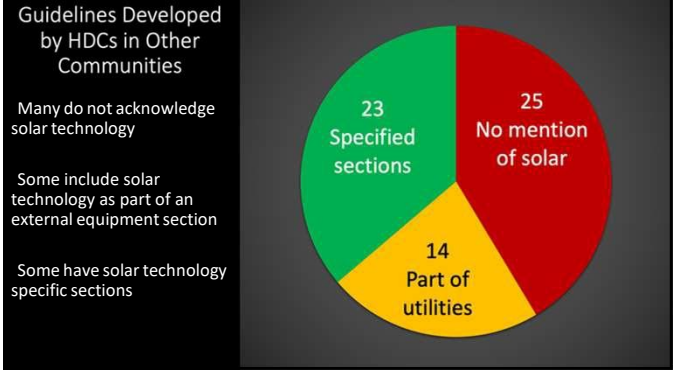
lsinatra@nantucket-ma.gov
office: (508) 325-5379
www.ACKEnergy.org

Thank You!

WPI Solar Project Group NTA Meeting Slides

Ben Twombly, Shawn Mills, Morgan Raposa, Kacie Miller





- Questions from the Survey
- What would you consider to be a visual intrusion in relation to home modifications?
 - Are any of you interested in installing solar?