Town of Wenham
Climate Action & Sustainability Committee

Mission:
The Climate Action and Sustainability Committee's primary focus is to chart the course for the Town to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2040, and to lead the way in implementing sustainable practices and building community resilience. The Committee will work to achieve the Town's goals outlined in the Wenham Climate Change Resolution and in the Wenham Master Plan (2023).

Authority:
Consistent with state goals, and by the authority of the Select Board, the Town of Wenham is hereby establishing a *Climate Action & Sustainability Committee* to work towards achieving the state's goals and the goals of the Town.

Responsibilities:
Consistent with Massachusetts state goals, and using the above documents as a roadmap, the Climate Action and Sustainability Committee will:

1. Recommend and establish a climate action plan and sustainability goals, performance indicators, and priorities for implementation.
2. Suggest programs designed to meet the Town's sustainability goals.
3. Identify grants and funding opportunities to support climate action and sustainability initiatives; including through the Massachusetts Green Communities program, and assist the Town in maintaining its designation.
4. Educate and raise awareness among Wenham residents, departments, nonprofits and businesses of climate action and sustainability initiatives.
5. Collaborate with the Hamilton Environmental Impact Committee (HEIC) and the Hamilton-Wenham Regional School District (HWRSD) to achieve common goals, share best practices, cooperate on grant applications, and otherwise maximize effectiveness.
6. Serve as a resource to Town boards and committees, departments, and employees on climate action and sustainability issues.
7. Stay informed of state programs and goals that will align and enhance Wenham's ability to achieve its sustainability goals.
8. Report progress periodically to the Town through the Select Board, and submit an annual report for inclusion in the Town of Wenham published annual report.

Duration:
The Climate Action and Sustainability Committee shall be a permanent committee.

Membership:
- Committee members are appointed by the Select Board for three-year terms. Five at-large members of the community will be appointed. Quorum for a meeting is set at three members.
- Initial appointments shall be staggered by having two appointments for three years, two appointments for two years, and one appointment for one year.

- The Conservation Commission may elect a liaison to the committee if they choose, this representative will be non-voting and will not affect quorum.
- The Committee may request participation from other non-voting individuals with skills and expertise to complete discrete projects required to achieve the committee's objectives.
- The committee will annually elect a Chair, Vice-Chair, and Clerk, and may assign other duties and elect liaisons to other committees as appropriate.

Resignation and Removal:
A member may resign their committee seat at any time through written/email notice to the Town Clerk, with a copy to the Chair and the Select Board.

Members who are absent (without extenuating circumstances) from committee meetings for three consecutive monthly meetings, or more than 25% of meetings in a year may be removed by majority vote of the appointing authority.