

Town of Barrington Resilient Future Resolution

WHEREAS, On January 17, 2020 Governor Gina Raimondo signed an executive order mandating the state to move towards 100% renewable energy by 2030; and,

WHEREAS, this is the most ambitious ten-year renewable energy target of any state in the nation (Clarcq) and for the State to achieve this goal, cities and towns, where people live and work, must become places of climate action rather than contributing to the continuing climate crises; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Barrington supports the State of Rhode Island's net zero carbon goals which include: using energy more efficiently, decarbonizing electricity, decreasing the use of fossil fuels, increasing the use of renewable energy, and maximizing the use of energy storage; and,

WHEREAS, the Town recognizes and acknowledges the growing effects of climate change and understands that the government, citizens, and private sector need to work collaboratively to reduce the damage and risks that climate change has and will continue to bring upon people, our ecosystems, the existence and possible extinction of certain species of wildlife, the erosion of our shore line, and to people's properties along our coast; and,

WHEREAS, progress toward a greener future is already happening -- as the World Future Council stated, "A transition is underway around the world: Away from an energy system powered by increasingly expensive and unsustainable fossil fuel resources toward one powered fully by abundant, local, and affordable renewable energy sources. In the years ahead, this transition is poised to improve the quality of life for millions, reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions, and help forge a world that is more just toward both current and future generations" (Couture, 6); and,

WHEREAS, there are many practical steps that can be implemented by the Town to reduce fossil fuel use and better prepare our community for a resilient future; and,

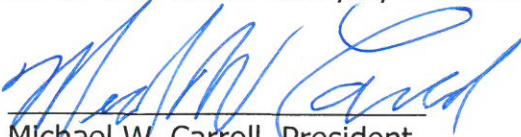
WHEREAS, to achieve 100% renewables, will require smart strategies that combine energy savings with renewable energy, and engage the community and stakeholders as partners in the process, and,

WHEREAS, a key part of the Town's strategy should include replacing town-owned fossil-fuel using equipment, including vehicles, with new zero carbon products.

NOW THEREFORE, The Town Council for the Town of Barrington hereby states its intention to Prioritize alternatives that utilize green power and clean fuels and to explore other strategies including: providing the community with the opportunity to participate in a community choice electric aggregation program with greater amounts of green energy than State requirements; installing solar and other appropriate zero carbon energy systems on public buildings and property to include school buildings and facilities; working with the State to phase-in green building codes; encouraging Town Departments and Committees to make decisions through the lens of energy reduction and development of renewable energy options; updating the Town's 2011 Strategic Energy Plan; and engaging in related outreach and education to town residents, businesses, and institutions to facilitate their participation in achieving these goals.

The Town Council will place energy efficiency, carbon emissions reduction, and renewable energy choices among its top priorities. Through such actions Barrington will reduce its carbon footprint and become a more sustainable and resilient community.

ADOPTED unanimously by the Barrington Town Council on February 1, 2021.



Michael W. Carroll, President
Barrington Town Council

Clarcq, C. (2020, January 23). Rhode Island Governor Sets Ambitious Renewable Energy Targets. Retrieved November 11, 2020, from <https://climate-change.org/2020/01/23/rhode-island-governor-sets-ambitious-renewable-energy-targets/>

Couture, T. D. (2014). Executive Summary (A. Leidreiter, Ed.). In *Policy Handbook: How to Achieve 100% Renewable Energy* (p. 6). Hamburg, Germany: The World Future Council. doi:https://www.worldfuturecouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/WFC_2014_Policy_Handbook_How_to_achieve_100_Renewable_Energy.pdf

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WHEREAS, the Town of Barrington supports the State of Rhode Island's net zero carbon goals which include: using energy more efficiently, decarbonizing electricity, decreasing the use of fossil fuels, increasing the use of renewable energy, and maximizing the use of energy storage; and,

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