

TOWN OF



ROCKPORT

FINANCE COMMITTEE

TOWN OFFICE BUILDING, 34 BROADWAY, ROCKPORT, MA 01966-1537

March 23, 2022

Donald J. Campbell, Jr.
Chair, Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
34 Broadway
Rockport, MA 01966

Dear Chairman Campbell:

At a meeting of the Town Finance Committee on February 23, 2022, several Rockport residents asked the Committee to review and consider supporting a non-binding "Resolution for Net Zero Energy by 2040."

The non-binding Resolution requests, in part, that Town government, and specifically the Board of Selectmen and the School Committee, commit to achieving net zero energy goals by 2040 "via an integrated, transparent and inclusive process that encourages the participation of all community members and local businesses."

The non-binding Resolution also requests that the Board of Selectmen "identify decision points where investments and projects will incorporate electrification, energy conservation, and renewable energy installation," and that "all municipal decisions shall include the review of the capital, operations, and maintenance costs/benefits of Net Zero options."

The presenting residents also submitted the following materials in support of the non-binding Resolution: 1) Background Paper; 2) Status Summary, Near Term Options; 3) Draft Petition; 4) One Path to Net Zero by 2040; 5) Weekly Mass. No. 2 Heating Oil Wholesale/Retail Price (2014-2022); 6) Chart: Candidates for Green Community Funding.

The presenting residents explained the purpose of the aspirational non-binding Resolution, what the Town has accomplished to date relative to energy conservation, and what can be achieved in the future by a Town wide net zero energy strategy. Finance Committee members engaged the presenters in a substantive discussion focused on methods, costs, benefits, technology and timelines.

Following due deliberation on February 23, 2022 and at two successive meetings, the Finance Committee elected as a body to support the non-binding Resolution.

Very truly yours,

Dwight D. Valentine, Chair

Cc: Finance Committee