

EAC October Meeting Minutes

October 27th 2021, 7PM – Township Building

Attending

- EAC Members: Joy, Stephen, Aaron, Zeta, Desiree
- Staff Liaison: Brandon
- Board of Commissioners representative: Peter Wilson

Minutes

- Welcome & Approval of Minutes:
 - Approval of Aug 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Public Comment Partner Update/Special Presentations:
 - Ross Gibby, CRDC Global - A New Approach to Plastic Recycling
 - Jeff - Pocono Lake Preserve - Pilot program this summer.
 - Founded in 2010 in Costa Rica - Canadian
 - A recycling solution needs to take all plastics, including those that are dirty and contaminated.
 - Resin 8 1/4 of the weight of the material it is replacing
 - Not cheaper than sand in the US 18\$/ton for sand.
 - Concrete block is ~5% more expensive (e.g. \$1 vs \$1.05)
 - Next gen of material incorporates CO2 capture.
 - Pilot program : Improve the recycling rates and improve the confidence in the recycling program.
 - York Facility is co-funded.
 - ross@crddc.global; <https://crdc.global/>
- Old Business
 - Joy - Rotary is not going to go through with Cisco lighting project
 - Social Media & Communications Update – Chris R.
 - 250 subscribers to our EAC Facebook.
 - Discussion around better communication or feedback mechanism for people to reach out to the EAC; generally an email alias that can go to the committee as a whole.
 - Agreed to setup an alias; Stephen and Zeta volunteered to monitor.
 - Renewable Springfield Update – Joy B., Desiree R., Melissa B.

- Desiree - draft of the transportation section in review for public posting.
 - Discussion around meeting with Public Works to discuss their 2022 budget and needs.
 - Joy - Municipal bldgs. Still working on energy analysis and efficiency improvements.
 - Community Day - recap of the event for the EAC table.
- New Business
 - Mermaid Park Planting Event – Saturday, October 30 from 8:30-12:30
 - Resignation & Statement of Appreciation - Jay Bailey-Smith, EAC Full Member EAC Full & Associate Member Vacancies
 - Upper Dublin contacted us - a group of municipalities forming a deer mgmt group/coalition - Contact Joy if you are interested.
 - Seed Library - Teen librarian and School Transition coordinator are looking for a seed library run by students at the high school. Idea came up before to Shade Tree and Parks and Recs were going to pursue getting an old card catalog. Zara is being brought into these discussions. Recommend looping in the Library board as well.
 - **PA SB 275** – Discussion the potential impact of a state bill that would prohibit municipalities from taking action through policies that restricts or prohibits, or has the effect of restricting or prohibiting, the connection or reconnection of a utility service based on the type or source of energy.
 - [Bill Information - Senate Bill 275; Regular Session 2021-2022 - PA General Assembly \(state.pa.us\)](#)
 - Bill passed the senate, House bill is ready for a vote. (HB 1947)
 - Governor has not weighed in on his decision.
 - The nuance is that this takes away is that it restricts what municipalities can do in terms of zoning or planning and would not allow our township board to address energy and emission use by developers within out township and to the wishes of the residents.
- Rescheduling Nov. Meeting Date – Topic: Wissahickon Watershed Partnership Open Forum/Public Comment Commissioner/Township Update.
 - November 17th - 3rd Wed. - EAC meeting - motion passed.
 - Wissahickon Watershed partnership - Board has nominated Brandon to the be the associate member to the it, replacing Baird.
 - BoC Updates
 - Spotted Lantern Fly - Penn State Noon Zoom - November 4th will cover "what happened to them"
 - Awarded \$2 million from COVID relief funds - have been earmarked for water improvement projects in the township.
 - Staff Updates - taking action on some of the 12 recommended stormwater projects that were identified by township staff and township engineer.

Actions/Next Steps

- EAC Voted to recommend the presentation by CRDC to the BoC.
- EAC to meet w/ Public Works.
- Township staff - follow-up on an EV charging sign to indicate where it is, this will be discussed w/ public works.
- Sent letter of thanks to Jay.
- EAC to urge the BoC to send a letter to the governor to oppose HB 1947 and SB 275

[Bill Information - Senate Bill 275; Regular Session 2021-2022 - PA General Assembly \(state.pa.us\)](#)

PRIOR PRINTER'S NO. 263

PRINTER'S NO. 1163

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 275 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY YAW, STEFANO, PITTMAN, ARGALL, MENSCH, YUDICHAK, HUTCHINSON, PHILLIPS-HILL, SCHWANK,
J. WARD, DiSANTO, BREWSTER AND MARTIN, FEBRUARY 24, 2021

SENATOR DUSH, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AS AMENDED, OCTOBER 19, 2021

AN ACT

Amending Title 53 (Municipalities Generally) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in preemptions, providing for restrictions on utility services prohibited.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Title 53 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

§

306 307. Restrictions on utility services prohibited.

(a) Prohibitions.--

(1) A municipality may not:

(i) Adopt a policy that restricts or prohibits, or has the effect of restricting or prohibiting, the connection or reconnection of a utility service based upon the type of source of energy to be delivered to an individual consumer within the municipality.

(ii) Discriminate against a utility service provider based in whole or in part on the nature or source of the utility service provided for an individual consumer within the municipality.

(2) A policy, or part of a policy, that is adopted by a municipality may not restrict or prohibit, or have the effect of restricting or prohibiting, the ability of an individual or entity within the municipality to use the services of a utility service provider that is capable and authorized to provide utility service for the property of the individual or entity.

(b) Effect.--This section does not affect the authority of a municipality to

manage or operate a publicly owned utility.:

(1) manage or operate a publicly owned utility; or

(2) take steps designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from municipal facilities and operations, including purchasing renewable energy.

(c) Construction.--A municipality's exercise of its land use authority in accordance with the act of July 31, 1968 (P.L.805, No.247), known as the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, shall not be construed as restricting or prohibiting an individual or entity from choosing a utility service provider.

(c) (d) Definitions.--As used in this section, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Municipality." Any of the following:

(1) A county, city, borough, incorporated town or township.

(2) A home rule, optional plan or optional charter municipality.

(3) Any other general purpose unit of government established by the General Assembly.

(4) A municipal authority.

(5) An entity formed under Subchapter A of Chapter 23 (relating to intergovernmental cooperation).

"Policy." A requirement, including a zoning or building code requirement or restriction, which is imposed by ordinance, resolution, rule, code, land use regulation, general or specific plan provision or otherwise.

"Utility service." Service from a utility service provider, which includes electric, manufactured gas, liquefied petroleum gas, natural gas, hydrogen, fuel oil, a renewable source or any other source, and which is capable of providing and authorized to provide the service for the property of an individual or entity.

Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.