

# Town of Orleans - Energy and Climate Action Committee

Minutes of the February 12, 2026, Regular Meeting

The next meeting will be March 12, 2026, 4:15 PM IN THE SKAKET ROOM

A video recording of this meeting can be found at:

<https://videoplayer.telvue.com/player/zzV8HNURw1G02-ue3glR7BRTpl-bknL/series/4129>

Video recordings more than three months old can be found at the archive site:

<https://archive.org/details/@orleansma-ch18>

The Energy & Climate Action Committee's (ECAC) page on the Town website is

<https://www.town.orleans.ma.us/703/Energy-Climate-Action-Committee>.

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:15 PM, a quorum was present.
  - Members Paul Cass, Hakim Janah, John Londa, Roger McDaniel, Andy O'Neill, David Jacobson (via Zoom) were present. In the absence of regular member Jackie Mitchell Alternate member John Dugan in attendance assumed her role for the meeting. A quorum was present.
  
2. Public Comment:  
No public comment
  
3. Update from Assistant Town Manager –Kim Grant reporting:
  - Depot Square Level 3 fast charging station installation is moving well along. The total project cost is approximately \$200,000 of which nearly all is covered by reimbursements and grants, the net cost to the town was on the order of \$7,500.
  - New electric supply poles have been set for the Nauset Beach and Town Hall Level 2 charger banks.
  - Climate Action Plan Status –
    - RFP has been issued, bids are due back on February 13, and bidders are KLA, Weston & Sampson, and EHB.
    - Contract award is anticipated by end of February 2026. The Assistant Town manager expects to provide the committee the project execution timeline at the March meeting.
  - Solar Contract – Hakim Janah raised concern that the solar project contracts have not been finalized, and this delay will stretch out the project completion.

- Green Communities Grants – Town submitted a request in Fall of 2025 for a grant and should be getting notified of award or decline within the next month.
- David Jacobson raised the issue that the Orleans Alternate Representative to the Cape Light Compact Board is still unfilled. He suggested we spread the word for potential applicants to apply through the town process

#### 4. Update from OCAN:

- OCAN is sponsoring a Lifetime Learning class by Zoom on Water quality and conservation issues on April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
- There are plans for the next group meeting of the Climate Action Impact Network on April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026, to review priorities and collaboration.

#### 5. Budget Support for Energy Navigator Program

- The Energy Navigator (EN) Program has made a planning request for up to \$10,000 of funding for various items including communications, materials, support, etc.
- EN is “ad hoc” and has not been set up as a legal entity or formal nonprofit, and therefore town funding is not feasible at this stage.
- Andrea Reed commented that if EN can obtain funding, certain items requested could be covered by existing town department functions and may not need to be separately funded to EN.
- Martin Culik representing EN reported on the research he has done on joining the Mass Energize program and benefits.
- It was agreed that Committee representatives should schedule a meeting with the Assistant Town Manager and Director of Communications to discuss form and structure, and review funding and scope items that can be produced using Town departments’ resources.
- Due to the unresolved items above no motion was put forth to submit the funding request document to the Select Board at this time.

#### 6. Review of Goal Sheets for 2026:

- Regarding the first Goal - increased energy efficiency building standards up to and including passive house requirements - Andrea Reed opened the discussion with comments that much work should be done to build consensus among all the stakeholders, quantifying the increased costs and benefits, and receiving public inputs before taking specific action.
- The Committee reviewed the remaining goals and discussed updates to be incorporated.

7. ECAC Committee Next Meeting Topics and Meeting Time and Date:

Consensus of the Committee was to remain in the Skaket Room on second Thursdays of the month at 4:15 PM

- The next scheduled meeting is Thursday, March 12, 2026, at 4:15 PM
- Discussion of passive house standards
- Update of the Energy Navigators case

8. Vote to Approve Minutes of the January 8, 2026, and January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026, meeting

- Motion was made by Hakim Janah - *To accept the Minutes of the January 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026, and January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Committee Meeting.* Seconded by Roger McDaniel.
- Unanimously approved.

9. Adjournment:

- With the business of the meeting concluded; motion was made by Roger McDaniel *to adjourn the meeting.* John Dugan seconded the motion.
- Motion carried unanimously.
- The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Andrew O'Neill  
Committee Clerk