

Newtown Borough Environmental Advisory Council January
12, 2026 Meeting Minutes FINAL
Council Chambers 23 N. State St. Newtown PA 18940 and Zoom

Members present: Glenn Beasley, Katherine Borish, Summer Bound, Pat Foster, Tim Markey (Chair), Samantha McGraw (Secretary), Bob Mirales, Julia Woldorf (Council Liaison)

1. Amendments to the Agenda
 - a. None
2. Approve December Minutes
 - a. Tim made the motion to approve the December minutes, Glenn seconded and all were in favor.
3. Annual Reorganization
 - a. Selection of Chair – Tim – all voted in favor of nomination.
 - b. Selection of Secretary – Samantha – all voted in favor of nomination.
4. EAC Priorities for 2026
 - a. Potentially discuss the application of rock salt to businesses. Maybe send a mailer to businesses. Consider adding this as something for the fall newsletter this year.
 - b. Christmas tree discussion – consider an article for the fall newsletter about how to properly recycle Christmas trees. The Borough could consider hiring a landscaping company to chip trees for residents.
 - c. The idea was suggested to have workshops at Wrightstown Farmers markets on container gardening using native plants, each month starting in May. Collaborators could include the Newtown Township EAC and Bucks County Food Shed Alliance. There is no fee to table at the market. Katherine will flush out this opportunity more. Another opportunity to promote planting native plants would be to have a demonstration garden in front of Borough Hall or Patriot's Park. It was suggested that Gino's is likely to want to participate in this effort.
 - d. Sustainable Landscaping – no updates.
 - e. Newtown Borough Climate Action Plan – Reviewed the student presentation. Follow up question for Penn State is if there is a way to determine the amount of renewable energy used. Also need greater clarification around Guiding Principles of GHG Accounting slide. Ask them to clarify how the waste information was collected and what information was provided. The next step will be to work on goals. To help convey the importance of the CAP to council, the suggestion was made to have Penn

State provide testimonials from other towns they've worked with, or examples of what another town has done to implement the recommendations of the CAP. The students will complete their work at the end of April.

- f. Storm Sewer Decal Project – still ongoing.
- 5. Borough Council Update
 - a. EAC Annual Report due
 - b. Municipal Website – under construction on new platform. If there are things we like on websites of other towns, send links to Julia to share with Craig. CivicPlus the company hired to create the website. No current launch timeframe.
 - c. Research on landscaping companies using eco-friendly equipment is underway.
 - d. Plastics Ordinance – no additional follow up since last year.
- 6. New Business
 - a. Lawn Sign Recycling – Middletown Township EAC idea to encourage Bucks County Commissioners to establish county-wide recycling effort for political signs. Montgomery County and Delaware County have implemented this. The EAC agreed to have Julia ask council if signing this letter of support is something we can do. Julia will try to get it on the January council meeting agenda. Katherine will share with Newtown Township.
 - b. Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative – Katherine and Glenn will discuss this further and bring back ideas to the EAC.
 - c. Newtown Creek Coalition participating in water quality testing with Stroud Water Research Center at the end of January.
- 7. Public Comment
 - a. None
- 8. Confirm Next EAC Meeting: Monday, February 9, 2026 at 7:00pm
- 9. Motion to Adjourn
 - a. Bob made the motion to adjourn, and Katherine seconded with all in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

For the Council,

Samantha A. McGraw

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