

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

February 21, 2023

RESOLUTION

**Resolution for a Future Without Gas and for Clean Heat**

WHEREAS, we are in a climate emergency that is increasing the social and financial costs of extreme weather damage; the cost of fossil fuels is volatile and rising; and the most effective way to protect the health, public safety and economic security of all members of our community is to stop burning fossil fuels; and

WHEREAS, the decades-long amortization of extensive, unnecessary, and counterproductive pipe replacement will be a rate burden on those without the assets or authority (e.g. renters) to electrify their homes; and,


WHEREAS, we want to align our policies and practices with the goals of Newton’s Climate Action Plan and the Commonwealth’s Climate goals:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

The City of Newton acknowledges the urgency of reducing the enormous cost to ratepayers and risks of our gas infrastructure. Therefore, Newton commits to creating a city-wide plan to equitably achieve optimal efficiencies and reduce emissions and risks by accelerating the retirement of the gas infrastructure through triage and repair of gas leaks and to expedite the electrification of residences and businesses.

Readings Waived and Approved

19 Yeas, 0 Nays, 5 Absent (Councilors Gentile, Grossman, Krintzman, Leary and Noel)

  
(SGD) CAROL MOORE  
Acting City Clerk