

City of Northampton

MASSACHUSETTS

In City Council, September 19, 2019

Upon the recommendation of Mayor David J. Narkewicz, Planning & Sustainability, Central Services, and the Energy and Sustainability Commission

19.138 An Order

To authorize Community Choice Aggregation to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

WHEREAS, Massachusetts authorizes municipalities to “aggregate the electric load of interested electric consumers within its boundaries” to provide competitive electric supplies (MGL Chapter 164 Section 134), commonly known as ***Community Choice Aggregation*** (CCA);

WHEREAS, Over 145 Massachusetts municipalities have adopted some form of CCA;

WHEREAS, On October 12, 2012, City Council authorized the city to participate in a CCA through the former Hampshire Council of Governments to allow a greening of the city’s electric supply and encourage energy conservation and renewable energy;

WHEREAS, The City, in cooperation with Amherst and Pelham, the University of Massachusetts Clean Energy Extension, the Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN), and six other municipalities around Massachusetts and the United States, has been studying how a CCA can provide competitive electric supplies while prioritizing a reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions;

WHEREAS, The City, through its Planning & Sustainability and in cooperation with Central Services and outside partners, obtained a grant from USDN to hire outside consultants to study the most effective ways that a CCA can reduce greenhouse gas emissions (“CCA 3.0”);

WHEREAS, The draft ***Northampton Climate Resiliency and Regeneration Plan*** identifies CCA as a critical strategy (a high impact practice) to reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

WHEREAS, Any Northampton CCA would have dual priorities of procurement of maintaining competitive electric rates and maximizing greenhouse gas emission reductions.

Ordered, that

The Mayor is authorized to obtain the necessary data, plans, applications, and regulatory approvals for Community Choice Aggregation (CCA), independently or in joint action with other municipalities, implement CCA, and enter into Joint Powers Agreements with other entities for joint CCAs.