

Maryjane Kenney

Consent
2/23/09

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From: Tom McDonagh [tom_mcdonagh@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2009 10:21 AM
To: Manager Department
Cc: Bernie Kosicki; actonpip@yahoo.com; Board of Selectmen; 'Tom McDonagh'
Subject: Acton Earth Hour proclamation
Attachments: Town of Acton EH Resolution.doc

Dear Steve,

As you are aware, The Acton Outdoor Lighting Education Committee brought the subject of the Town supporting the Earth Hour Initiative before the Board of Selectmen on February 9th. At the meeting, the Board was unanimous in it's support for this program and we look forward to working with you to make it a successful venture.

One of the simplest and most high impact tasks that can complete to ensure success is to register the Town of Acton as a supporter of Earth Hour 2009. In doing so, Acton will be recognized as a leader amongst the cities and towns of New England. With fast action, The Town of Acton could be the the first in New England to do so.

The process is rather simple. Enclosed as a word document is a model Town of Acton proclamation for the support of Earth Hour 2009. I have also pasted the Proclamation below to make the process easier. The signed or officially emailed proclamation by a town government representative is required for the Town to be recognized by the World Earth Hour organization. Please review the document or pasted text below. If the wording and intent is satisfactory, please cut and paste the text and send it via email ASAP to:

dan.forman@wwfus.org

Dan Forman

Public Relations Manager

World Wildlife Fund

1250 24th Street, NW

Washington, DC 20037-1193

Phone: 202-495-4546

Mobile: 202-758-7940

Fax: 202.778.9747

www.worldwildlife.org

In doing so, Can you please cc myself and the other recipients of this email so

that we know we can move forward on this issue?

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns regarding this important town-wide initiative. I can be contacted at home via phone @ 978-263-8825 or this email address. I thank you in advance for your timely support of this issue.

Very best regards,

Tom McDonagh
Acton OLEC member

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Resolution to support extinguishing all non-essential lighting in all city government buildings, public schools and public landmarks for the hour between 8:30 PM and 9:30 PM on March 28, 2009 to conserve energy as part of the city-wide climate change event: Earth Hour and establishing March 28, 2009 as Earth Hour Day in the City of Acton
WHEREAS, our community is deeply concerned about the impacts of climate change and the future health and well-being of our planet and believes energy efficiency, natural resource conservation, and a demand by the voting public for action by elected officials are important elements to combating climate change; and,
WHEREAS, Earth Hour is both an international and local symbolic event organized by World Wildlife Fund to raise awareness about climate change issues, to encourage businesses, individuals and government to take actions to reduce their carbon emissions and their impact on the environment in their daily lives and operations; and
WHEREAS, Earth Hour asks all citizens, businesses, government agencies, and commercial and non-commercial establishments to turn off all non-essential lighting for one hour beginning at 8:30 pm on March 28, 2009 and to encourage citizens and businesses to commit to actions they can take in the coming year to reduce their carbon footprints and conserve energy; and,
WHEREAS, if every household installs one CFL, annual energy savings will reach approximately 18 Gigawatt hours per year, or 1.3% of total residential energy demand; and,
WHEREAS, Earth Hour will be used as a tool to inform local residents and businesses about existing information and tools already available within the community to assist them in increasing energy efficiency and decreasing emissions and use of natural resources; and,
WHEREAS, Extinguishing non-essential lights in all city government buildings, public schools and public landmarks for one hour and urging all businesses and citizens to do the same will send a clear message that the people of Acton in the State of Massachusetts in the United States of America are concerned about climate change, stand with the rest of the world in seeking solutions and are demanding that elected leaders act immediately to take measures that will help fight global climate change effort to stop climate change, including the passage of legislation and good-faith participation in global climate treaty negotiations in Copenhagen in December 2009; and,
WHEREAS, Turning non-essential lights off in all city government buildings, public schools and public landmarks will serve as an important rallying point for the city-wide energy conservation event Earth Hour; and, therefore be it,
RESOLVED, That the City of Acton endorses efforts by World Wildlife Fund through Earth Hour to raise awareness around global climate change and energy efficiency; and, be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Acton encourages all city employees to turn off all non-essential lighting in city government buildings, public schools and public landmarks for the hour between 8:30 and 9:30 PM on March 28, 2009 to conserve energy and raise awareness about global climate change as part of the city-wide energy conservation event: Earth Hour Acton; and, be it;

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Acton Board of Selectmen declares March 28, 2009 to be "WWF's Earth Hour" day in the City of Acton.

Steve Ledoux
Acton Town Manager
February 20, 2009

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