

ARTICLE 31

To see if the Town will vote to enact Title 15, Chapter 15.16 of the Town of Tewksbury By-Laws, entitled "Stretch Energy Code" for the purpose of regulating the design and construction of buildings for the effective use of energy, pursuant to Appendix 115.AA of the Massachusetts Building Code, 780 CMR, the "Stretch Energy Code", including future editions, amendments or modifications thereto, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, which by-law shall read as follows:

Chapter 15.16 – STRETCH ENERGY CODE

Sections:

15.16.010 – Definitions

15.16.020 – Purpose

15.16.040 – Applicability

15.16.060 – Authority

15.16.080 – Stretch Code

15.010 – Definitions

International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) – The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is a building energy code created by the International Code Council. It is a model code adopted by many state and municipal governments in the United States for the establishment of minimum design and construction requirements for energy efficiency, and is updated on a three year cycle. Since July 1, 2010, the baseline energy conservation requirements of the MA State Building Code defaulted to the latest edition, the IECC 2009 with Massachusetts amendments as approved by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards.

Stretch Energy Code – Codified by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards as 780 CMR Appendix 115 AA of the 8th Edition Massachusetts Building Code, the Stretch Energy Code is an appendix to the Massachusetts building code, based on further amendments to the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) to improve the energy efficiency of buildings built to this code.

15.16.020 – Purpose

The purpose of 780 CMR 115 AA is to provide a more energy-efficient alternative to the base energy code applicable to the relevant sections of the building code for both new construction and existing buildings.

15.16.040 – Applicability

This code applies to residential and commercial buildings. Buildings not included in this scope shall comply with 780 CMR 13, 34, 61, or 93, as applicable.

15.16.060 – Authority

A municipality seeking to ensure that construction within its boundaries is designed and built above the energy efficiency requirements of 780 CMR may mandate adherence to this appendix.

780 CMR 115 AA may be adopted or rescinded by any municipality in the Commonwealth in the manner prescribed by law.

15.16.080 – Stretch Code

The Stretch Code, as codified by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards as 780 CMR Appendix 115 AA, including any future editions, amendments or modifications, is herein incorporated by reference into the Town of Tewksbury Town Bylaws, Chapter 15.16.

The Stretch Code is enforceable by the Building Commissioner.

And further, that non-substantive changes to this by-law be permitted in order that it be in compliance with the numbering format of the Tewksbury Town By-Laws, or take any other action related thereto.

Tewksbury Green Committee

Motion: Finance Committee recommended adoption.

Anne Marie Stronach, motioned for the assembly to allow visitor Mr. Michael Berry, Energy Star consultant to speak on behalf of the article

Anne Marie Stronach motioned to move the question

Voted: The motion to allow Mr. Berry permission to address the assembly was accepted. 9:28 PM 5/4/11

The motion to move the question was Adopted 9:37 PM 5/4/11

Article 31 was Adopted 9:38 PM 5/4/11

Executive Summary: The Stretch Energy Code is one of five criteria that will allow Tewksbury to apply for Green Community Designation which provides access to grant funds for energy reduction and conservation projects in Tewksbury. The stretch energy code is an optional appendix to the Massachusetts building energy code that allows Cities and Towns to choose a more energy-efficient option. This option increases the efficiency requirements in any municipality that adopts it, for all new residential and many new commercial buildings, as well as an option for those residential additions and renovations that would normally trigger building code requirements.