

VILLAGE OF TIVOLI

**RESOLUTION NO. 98
DATED JUNE 19, 2019**

**RESOLUTION URGING UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PASS
THE ENERGY INNOVATION AND CARBON DIVIDEND ACT (H.R. 763)**

WHEREAS, climate scientists worldwide are in near-unanimous agreement that the planet Earth is warming rapidly and to a degree that is perilous to human civilization, to numerous species, and to the global ecosystem, and

WHEREAS, human activity is a significant contributor to global warming, especially through the accelerating combustion of fossil fuels that create carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases as a byproduct, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Tivoli has been a Climate Smart Community since 2013; and

WHEREAS, a prompt and major shift away from fossil fuels is a necessary cornerstone to any meaningful response to climate change, and

WHEREAS, the recently published Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change SR1.5 Report (<https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/>) states that, "Policies reflecting a high price on emissions are necessary" as a key component of any effort to limit global temperatures increases to 1.5 degree centigrade, and

WHEREAS this IPCC report also suggests that any carbon pricing policy should be designed to, "balance between incentivizing low-carbon behavior and mitigating the adverse distributional consequences of higher energy prices", and

WHEREAS, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (H.R. 763) has been introduced in Congress and would establish a steadily increasing fee on fossil fuels at the point of their entry into the economy; such a fee would be straightforward and make effective use of free-market mechanisms to promote the transition to greater energy conservation and renewable sources of energy, and

WHEREAS, the act would return all revenues (minus 3% for administration) to each American as a monthly dividend, to offset expected higher prices for goods and services, and

WHEREAS, this revenue-neutral carbon fee and dividend is an effective method to reduce carbon emissions for the following reasons:

1. The fee would motivate everyone to conserve and adopt renewable energy without the need for extensive governmental regulatory controls or infrastructure, encouraging consumers and the market to replace consumption of carbon-based energy with innovative, sustainable energy sources, whether by being more efficient or choosing other, less carbon intensive energy sources;
2. The fee would employ a market approach to encourage innovative processes, not only

- in energy production, but also in every field in which energy is consumed, e.g. electric cars, mass transportation, architectural planning and construction, water heating, lighting, and air conditioning in residential and commercial buildings;
3. Levying the fee at the point of production would be more efficient, less expensive and provide more accurate signals than would doing so at the point of consumption;
 4. The fee would incentivize the development and use of alternative energies and attendant technologies, eliminating the need for government subsidies that attempt to forecast alternative energy winners and losers;
 5. Because the fee is levied on the same basis on all businesses, it is fairer to every business and easier to administer than alternatives, such as a cap and trade system;
 6. A border adjustment would assess a fee on goods traded with countries without a comparable carbon price, thereby maintaining the competitiveness of US businesses and discouraging relocation to such countries and also encouraging other countries to price carbon.

WHEREAS, such a policy would protect lower and middle-income households, as the dividend would allow more than 70% of American households to benefit financially, break even, or have only minimal increased costs (<0.2% income) from this policy; the policy would also create jobs, as the dividend puts money back into local economies, and

WHEREAS, further delay in responding to this crisis increases the risk of catastrophic climate change, imminently threatens low-lying coastal areas and land and sea species, threatens water supplies, increases the frequency of severe weather events, increases the cost of undertaking adequate responses, and increases risks to the global economy; and

WHEREAS, The Village has determined that the proposed action is best described as a local legislative decision concerning routine administration and management considered a "Type II" action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA");

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Tivoli Green Committee, that the Village of Tivoli endorses a carbon fee and dividend and urges our representatives in the United States Congress to enact it into law; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of the resolution be sent to President Donald Trump, Vice-President Michael Pence, Governor Andrew Cuomo, Senators Kirsten Gillibrand and Charles Schumer, Representative Antonio Delgado, New York State Senator Sue Serino, New York State Assembly Member Kevin Cahill, and New York State Conference of Mayors.

EXTRACT OF MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Village Board of the Village of Tivoli, Dutchess County, New York was convened in public session at the Village Hall, 86 Broadway, Tivoli, New York 12583 on June 19, 2019 at 7:00 p.m., local time.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Griffith, and, upon roll being called, the following members were:

PRESENT:

Joel Griffith	Mayor
Emily Majer	Deputy Mayor
Angela Cole	Trustee
Susan Ezrati	Trustee
Jeanann Schneider	Trustee

ABSENT:

The following persons were ALSO PRESENT:

Christine Chale, PANDA, Kathy O'Connor, Laurie Husted, Jeanette Canaday, Peter Walsh

The following resolution was offered by Trustee Cole, seconded by Deputy Mayor Majer, to wit;

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The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to vote on a roll call, which resulted as follows:

Joel Griffith	Voting ✓
Emily Majer	Voting ✓
Angela Cole	Voting ✓
Susan Ezrati	Voting ✓
Jeanann Schneider	Voting ✓

The foregoing resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

CERTIFICATE OF RECORDING OFFICER

The undersigned hereby certifies that:

(1) She is the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Village of Tivoli, Dutchess County, New York (hereinafter called the "Village ") and the custodian of the records of the Village, including the minutes of the proceedings of the Village Board of Trustees, and is duly authorized to execute this certificate.

(2) Attached hereto is a true and correct copy of a resolution duly adopted at a meeting of the Village Board held on the 19th day of June, 2019 and entitled:

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(3) Said meeting was duly convened and held and said resolution was duly adopted in all respects in accordance with law and the regulations of the Village. To the extent required by law or said regulations, due and proper notice of said meeting was given. A legal quorum of members of the Board was present throughout said meeting, and a legally sufficient number of members voted in the proper manner for the adoption of the resolution. All other requirements and proceedings under law, said regulations or otherwise incident to said meeting and the adoption of the resolution, including any publication, if required by law, have been duly fulfilled, carried out and otherwise observed.

(4) The seal appearing below constitutes the official seal of the Village and was duly affixed by the undersigned at the time this certificate was signed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has hereunto set her hand this 19 day of June, 2019.

-SEAL-



Robin L. Bruno
Village Clerk