

## **TOWN GOVERNMENT STUDY COMMITTEE**

*Thursday, November 13, 2014 – Minutes*

Meeting called to order by the Chairperson at 6:00 p.m. and the Chairperson advised there was no availability to have the meeting recorded.

**Present:** Chairperson: Phil Washko, Vice Chair: Bernie Roderick, Mark Badwey, Dick Douglass, Rich Griffiths, Siobhan Henebury (arrived at 6:16pm) and Pattie Pacella.

### **AGENDA:**

**Review/approve minutes:** 10/30 Minutes – Bernie Roderick made a motion to accept as read and was seconded by Rich Griffiths. The motion passed unanimously.

11/10/14 Minutes with BOS – Bernie Roderick made a motion to accept as read and was seconded by Pattie Pacella. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Opening Public Comment:**

None.

### **Review Research:**

#### **1. Fin Com**

Mark Badwey passed out a proposed draft and gave a review of it. He did some research of bylaws for the language from Duxbury, Deerfield, and Plymouth. The member would not have to be a Town Meeting but a 'registered' voter.

Dick Douglas asked about a felon who was rehabilitated.

Discussion was held on the number of people on the committee that we were proposing.

Bernie Roderick made a motion to recommend reducing the number of people on Fin Com from 13 to 7 members and was seconded by Rich Griffiths. The motion passed unanimously.

Mark Badwey would continue his review of the draft.

Dick Douglass asked if there should be qualifications noted.

Phil Washko advised the Town Attorney said they should not put that in an article. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Washko was going to reach out to John Roderigues to ask if the number was to be voted to reduce the number of members if they would ask to hire a recording secretary.

**ACTION ITEM:** Everyone to review fin com to finalize for next meeting.

#### **2. Term Limits**

Discussion whether we are recommending to Town to do a Town wide vote. There are negatives. To look at past vacancies on Boards to see how many papers were pulled for each.

Discussion on making a recommendation. Pattie Pacella asked to see the "cons" listed out.

**ACTION ITEM:** Each to make a pros/cons list of "Term Limits."

Mark Badwey will speak to the two Towns that did pass Town Limits. (Southbridge in 2004 & Menthuen in 90's).

### **3. Strong Chiefs**

Discussion on bringing in the chiefs for further discussion.

Bernie Roderick agreed to speak to Police Chief.

Options:

- 1.. Leave as is.
2. Upgrading Police & downgrading Fire Chief
3. Bringing alignment to TA instead of BOS. The TA only supervises the department head.

### **4. Civil Service**

Dick Douglass reported he is waiting for the chiefs to answer some question.

### **5. BOH**

Question is, is there a M.G.L. that BOS will or shall hire BOH or health agent.

Pattie to review.

### **6. Elected or Appointed**

Rich Griffiths reviewed his research and explained his documents. Suggested we look at Policy Making Boards vs. just Functional Boards.

Bernie Roderick wondered if we were cherry picking.

Discussion on whether this is where we should spend our time.

Rich Griffiths suggested going through each board methodically and by piece meal.

Dick Douglass suggested making recommendation to outsource for an evaluation of appointed/elected individuals, he suggested this might be a good idea for a final report.

Phil Washko said he was not sure we should continue with this subject.

Pattie Pacella agreed that there should be qualifications; however gave an example of the BOS looking for Capital Planning Committee members from the community in specific fields and unfortunately they couldn't get everyone that wanted or suggested. She wasn't sure that qualifications would play a part in an appointed member.

It could be something that be added to a final report for further research.

Rich Griffiths argued that we should go through each one individually and discuss.

A straw poll was taken and it was voted 6-1 (Rich Griffiths) not to discuss anything further.

Rich Griffiths wanted to see a recommendation that the BOH be a 5 member Board vs. 3.

## **7. Green Communities**

Siobhan Henebury reviewed her discussion with Bill Roth. We all agreed not to discuss/research this further.

Re: Survey

Phil Washko explained it was ready for distribution and that it would be going to every head in every department.

Re: Ethical

Bernie Roderick sent an email to the ethical commission to ask questions about what we could do to pass out information regarding our Article in May. Mr. Roderick said it may take up to 30 days to get an answer.

Dick Douglas got some information on printing cards from a printer in Fall River for a 6 ½ x 9 light papered sheet, 7,076 mailboxes would be \$1348.

Pattie Pacella made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mark Badwey. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

Patricia A. Pacella  
Recording Secretary