

Town Government Study Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 23, 2019

7:15 pm – Room 204

Commission Members	Other
Chairman Jonathan Smith – present	David Rosenberg
Secretary Anthony Turi – present	
Anthony Kennedy – present	
Gary Sullivan – present	

Meeting convened approximately 7:15 pm.

No minutes were ready for approval.

Kristen Balash has been “promoted” onto the Advisory Board and has resigned from our committee. We wish her the best of luck.

Anthony T gave an update regarding a change to the Bidding process warrant article. Technically the Finance Director and Town Accountant are separate positions within the town, they just happen to be held by the same person right now. That might not be true in the future so our warrant article should leave that part of the current bylaws alone.

All of the articles the committee has supported appear to be in good shape for passage at Town Meeting. We should be prepared to voice our support for the articles if necessary.

- Bid/Procurement bylaw update
- Town Clerk to make formatting changes
- Severability
- Bylaw codification
- Pay Classification study

Jonathan will be giving a brief committee report at Town Meeting and be sure to mention that we need new members.

The committee discussed plans for the future and the Spring Town Meeting. Jonathan believes we should hold a structured public forum held after the holidays. Some topics that our committee is working on:

- Recall of elected officials
- Term limits
- Size of the Select Board
- Town Manager vs. Town Administrator
- Changing the relationship between the Town Election and Town Meeting

David Rosenberg would like our committee to look into increasing citizen participation. He gave the example of San Jose, CA holding citizen workshops and Lexington, MA holding a Citizens Academy and other towns doing a "Town Government 101" program to educate citizens.

It was noted that the Select Board has begun holding public comment periods during their meeting. Communication between the Town and residents is improving but there is still more to be done.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 4th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm



Submitted by
Anthony Turi