



CHARTER & BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE

10 MECHANIC STREET BELLINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 02019

Charter and Bylaw Review Committee Meeting Minutes – June 14, 2021

The June 14th meeting of the Charter and Bylaw Review Committee was called to order by Chairman Martinis at 7PM with Mr. Salisbury, Mr. Sposato, Mrs. Altomonte, Mrs. Garten and Mrs. Grant all in attendance and Mrs. Flannery, Mr. Collamati and Mr. O'Connell joining the meeting virtually through zoom. Town Administrator, Denis Fraine, and Planner, Jim Kupfer, were in attendance.

Mr. Martinis asked Mr. Kupfer to update the Board on the matters which were discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Kupfer stated Town Counsel, Attorney Lauren Goldberg, had joined the meeting via zoom. Mr. Kupfer explained a copy of the sections discussed at the last meeting were forwarded to Town Counsel for review and comment. Mr. Kupfer provided the Board member with copies of Town Counsel's reply (attached).

At this time Mr. Martinis thanked Atty. Goldberg for attending the meeting and requested she review her comments. Attorney Goldberg provided additional overview of items which could be changed, and the process outlined in paragraph (a).

Mr. Salisbury asked Atty. Goldberg to further explain the process for electing a Temporary Moderator in the elected Moderator's absence. The Atty. referred to the process described in her summary. Mr. Fraine stated the Town had utilized the Town Clerk in at least one Town Meeting in the past to serve as Moderator and the Town Meeting did vote to allow for this as the Moderator was absent.

Mr. Martinis expressed his desire to see the publication in local papers requirement dropped for a Special Town Meeting. He did however feel it should be a requirement to post the meeting on the Town's website.

Mr. Salisbury stated his preference to see the Town retain the four Constables. He believes they provide a necessary service. Mr. Sposato questioned the need for four Constables as he believes only one or two are necessary as there is very little activity for them.

Mr. Sposato expressed his preference to see the Board of Registrars appointed by the Town Clerk as opposed to the Selectboard. Atty. Goldberg stated her opinion does provide for this but action by Town Meeting authorizing a Charter change would be necessary.

Mr. Martinis thanked Atty. Goldberg for attending the meeting and providing a summary to the Board.



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Mr. Kupfer informed the Board the next meeting of the Committee would be July 12th at which time the Town's Chief Financial Officer will be in attendance.

Mr. Martinis thank the Committee for their involvement and stated his preference to keep the meetings to one hour whenever possible which will be the goal next month. On a Sposato/Grant motion the Committee voted to adjourn at 8:05pm.

Respectfully Submitted


Denis C. Fraine