

Rowe Bylaw Review Committee  
October 23, 2018  
6:30 P.M. at Rowe Town Hall – First Floor Meeting Room

**Present:** Chair Chuck Sokol, Secretary Paul McLatchy III, Christopher Hyytinen, James Lively

**Other**

**Attendees:** None

**Call to Order:** Chair Sokol called the meeting to order at 6:31 P.M., with a quorum of the committee present.

**Minutes:** The minutes of October 9<sup>th</sup> were presented. A motion was made by Chair Sokol and seconded by Mr. Lively to approve the minutes as written. The vote was 4-0-0 in favor.

**Article VII:** The following topics were addressed under Article VII:

**Section 10 (Scenic Roads):** There is more information under MGL Chapter 266, §105 concerning the destruction of stone walls. It was agreed to leave this section as is.

**Section 11 (Recycling):** This is covered under MGL C.40, §8H, which allows for towns to establish recycling programs. It was briefly discussed whether to add the reference to the bylaw, but ultimately was left as is.

**New Section:** After refining language from the last meeting, the following wording was proposed:

*Anyone who purposefully or negligently causes damage to be done to town property or causes through some action or inaction the loss/use of town resources beyond the normal and expected use of town services shall be fined an amount equal to the cost of labor, materials, and equipment for the repair or replacement of such property or reimbursement for town resources. If the person who caused the damage does not report to an appropriate authority within twenty-four (24) hours, they may be assessed an additional fine not to exceed \$1,000.*

A motion was made by Chair Sokol and seconded by Mr. Lively to propose this new bylaw. The vote was 4-0-0 in favor.

**Article VIII:** The following topics were addressed under Article VIII:

**Section 1 (Enforcement):** Discussion ensued about how to word the bylaw to clarify who can enforce the bylaws. A motion was made by Mr. McLatchy and seconded by Chair Sokol to change the wording to read “Except as otherwise noted, the Board of Selectmen or their designee(s) shall enforce these bylaws”. The vote was 4-0-0 in favor.

Combining: A motion was made by Mr. Hyytinen and seconded by Chair Sokol to combine Articles I and VIII into one article- Article I. The vote was 4-0-0 in favor.

Section 2 (Noncriminal Disposition): A motion was made by Mr. McLatchy and seconded by Mr. Hyytinen to delete Article VIII, Section 2, as the bylaw that is referenced (Article VII, Section 3) has been proposed for deletion. The vote was 4-0-0 in favor.

**Article I:** The following topics were addressed under Article I:

Section 3/New 4 (Fines): After a great deal of discussion, a motion was made by Chair Sokol and seconded by Mr. McLatchy to split Article I, Section 3 into two new sections. The vote was 4-0-0 in favor.

*Section 3:* “Each day a violation continues after written notification by the enforcing authority may be counted as a separate offense.”

*Section 4:* “The penalty for breach or violation of any of the herein bylaws shall be a written or verbal warning and/or a fine of \$50 for the first offense, \$100 for a second offense, and \$500 for the third and subsequent offenses, unless otherwise provided for.”

**Possible Future Topics:** Mr. Hyytinen brought up a number of topics he’d like the committee to consider for possible bylaws:

- Prohibiting individuals who are delinquent on their tax payments to serve on committees.
- Research whether a bylaw has been passed or if one should be added to prohibit plowing snow across a street, thereby possibly removing sand/salt treatment.
- Pay for police details listed in the bylaws, which would make it enforceable.
- Limiting familial relationships in different positions- i.e. no family member would be eligible to oversee another.
- Whether mechanical devices could be used for loading sand from the sand shed into personal vehicles/hauling equipment.

**Next Meeting:** The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:30.

**Adjourn:** A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 P.M. The vote was 4-0-0 in favor.

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Paul McLatchy III, Secretary*

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*Paul McLatchy III, Secretary*

Approved: February 5, 2019

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*Christopher "Selmi" Hyytinen, Member*

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*James Lively, Member*

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*Chuck Sokol, Chairman*