

Rowe Bylaw Review Committee
September 13, 2017
6:00 P.M.
Rowe Town Hall

DM
JM
SG
PMB

Present: Chair Jennifer Morse, Daniel Burke (entered at 6:10), Susan Gleason, Paul McLatchy III, David Roberson

Audience of Citizens: Chuck Sokol

Call to Order: Chair Morse called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M., a quorum of the committee present

Liaisons: Chair Morse said that she would like to appoint liaisons by the end of the next meeting to the different boards and departments with regulations.

Deed: Chair Morse has found the deed for the gifting of the Pelham Lake land given by Percy Brown. Members will be able to view it if they desire.

Previous Work: Ms. Gleason reported that she had spoken with Myra Carlow, who had been a member of the previous Bylaw Review Committee. Ms. Carlow said that she had files of their work and would give the current committee copies of what they had produced.

Article I: The only item in Article I that members wanted to review was Section 3. Though no vote was taken, it was agreed to that the words “unless otherwise provided for” would be added after the words “for each offense”, and wording along the lines of “The Selectboard may waive this fee under certain circumstances” would be added to the end of the section.

Article II: The following items were addressed:

Section 1: The committee discussed what day of the week might be best for the annual town meeting. Many other towns have their annual meetings on a Saturday and have decent turnout. There were concerns about whether people would turn out for a Saturday meeting, but it was agreed to gauge interest at the public hearing before finalizing a proposal. A motion was made and seconded to change the wording from “...shall be held on the second Monday of May...” to “...shall be held on the first Saturday of May...”. The vote was 3-0, with two abstentions.

Section 1: A motion was made and seconded to remove “One Auditor for one (1) year” from the list of elected officials. The townspeople have not elected an auditor in the last decade, possibly longer. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Section 1: Chair Morse informed the committee that it was likely that the Selectboard would be pursuing an article at the annual town meeting to change the tax collector from elected to appointed. This has been recommended by numerous audits. The voters would also have to approve a ballot question authorizing the change. As this effort would be led primarily by the Board of Selectmen, a motion was made and seconded to table this matter. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Section 1: A motion was made and seconded to change the wording of “A Clerk for three (3) years” to “A Town Clerk for three (3) years”. The vote was unanimous in favor.

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Adjourn
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Paul McL

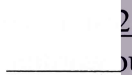
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Approve


Jennifer Moran

Paul McLatch

4: Concern was raised about the word "sending" in regards to the Selectmen notifying residents meetings. A motion was made and seconded to change the wording from "...by sending them..." mailing them...". The vote was unanimous in favor.


Daniel Burke

2: The topic of the town meeting quorum requirement was brought up, but no proposals to change brought forth. It was noted that some towns have different requirements for their annual town and special town meetings.


Susan Gleason

: A member brought up the previous vote that mailing notice to all voters could be interpreted as ment to mail multiple copies to each home, which would be costly and unnecessary. A motion e and seconded to table the matter to review other towns' wording. The vote was unanimous in


David Roberts

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 4th at 6:00 P.M.

tion was made and seconded to adjourn. The vote was unanimous in favor, and the meeting was M.

mitted,
Rowe Byl II, Secretary

10/4/17