Approved with one correction noted
20 March 2019

Planning Board Minutes for 6 February 2019

Members present were David Roberson, chairman, Dan Burke, Robin Reed, & Doug Wilson, scribe. Jodi Brown was not present. The meeting was called to order at 6:15 and the minutes for December 5, 2018 were passed out, read, and approved unanimously.

There will be a meeting with Jenn Morse, chairman of the BoS, as well as David Roberson for the Planning Board, Ramon Sanchez for the Conservation Commission, Maggie Rice for the Board of Health, Town Counsel Donna MacNicol, and a staff member at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments regarding a property on Hazelton Road which has been the subject of a complaint.

There is a cottage down by the lake that is being rented through AirB&B that has not been approved and a cease and desist order will probably be issued.

The selectmen sent the townspeople a questionnaire concerning their opinions about the Goal Post.

David talked about his concern that the article on page seven of the February Goal Post from Priscilla and David Little was an opinion letter that violated the Planning Board guidelines.

A motion was made and passed with a vote of three ~~to one~~ and one abstention that prior to publication of the remaining Goal Posts be submitted to David to make sure there is no content that is not consistent with editorial policy.

The next meeting was scheduled for March 13. A move to adjourn was made at 7:48 and passed unanimously.

Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Franklin County Cooperative Public Health Service

October 9, 2018

Dohn Sherman
77 Hazelton Road
Rowe, MA 01367

RE: State Sanitary Code Violations on 77 Hazelton Road

Dear Dohn Sherman,

The Rowe Board of Health spoke to you at a scheduled Board of Health meeting on Wednesday, September 6, 2018 regarding the condition of your property on 77 Hazelton Road. The Rowe Board of Health is concerned about the amount of tires you have on the property, which collect rain water and serve as breeding sources for mosquitoes. As you may or may not be aware, West Nile cases have been reported in Massachusetts and the mosquitoes that carry West Nile as well as Triple E (Easter Equine Encephalitis) are still active until there is a hard frost.
All tires on the property need to be disposed of properly or stored in a structure that will not allow them to collect water (covering with a tarp is not a solution or option for compliance).

In addition to the tires, there is an accumulation of motor vehicles parts, scrap metal, and wood debris/construction debris that put this property in violation of the State Sanitary Code 105 CMR 410.000 section 602(A); which states:

410.602: Maintenance of Areas Free from Garbage and Rubbish
(A) Land. The owner of any parcel of land, vacant or otherwise, shall be responsible for maintaining such parcel of land in a clean and sanitary condition and free from garbage, rubbish or other refuse. The owner of such parcel of land shall correct any condition caused by or on such parcel or its appurtenance which affects the health or safety, and well-being of the occupants of any dwelling or of the general public.

30 Day Order

You are hereby ordered to remove all tires, scrap metal, wood debris, and motor vehicle parts by 30 days from receipt of this letter.

Right to a Hearing

105 CMR 410.850: Right to Hearing
Unless otherwise specified in 105 CMR 410.000, the following persons may request a hearing before the board of health by filing a written petition:

(A) Any person or persons upon whom any order has been served pursuant to any regulation of 105 CMR 410.000 (except for an order issued after the requirements of 105 CMR 410.831 have been satisfied); provided, such petition must be filed within seven days after the day the order was served.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call or email.

Andrea Crete, MPH, RS, Regional Health Director
Cooperative Public Health Service
413-774-3167 x106 (office)
email: ACrete@frcog.org

Cc: Rowe Board of Health

telegram.com
WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

Tax exemption could cut towns statewide from solar-farm revenue

By Debbie LaPlaca
Correspondent
Posted Jan 5, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Cities and towns statewide, who count on big tax revenue from commercial solar farms, could come up short because a state appeals board is granting tax exemptions to solar companies.

Some solar developers have used Clause 45th of state law Chapter 59 to argue they are tax exempt and the state Appellate Tax Board has agreed.

What some are calling a tax "loophole" is causing an array of confusion in assessors' offices across the state.

Worcester County is home to 721 nonresidential solar projects with a total installed capacity of 468 megawatts, according to the state Department of Energy Resources. Statewide, 4,751 installations have a combined capacity of 1,718 megawatts.

An Appellate Tax Board decision forced Barre to refund personal property tax it collected from a solar developer. Charlton and Oxford await the tax board's decision on appeals that could put at risk more than $1 million in revenue.

Talk of the matter in Charlton ramped up in November at a selectmen's meeting when resident H. Laurie Degnan called for citizens to be aware and get involved.

"When I found out about the huge loophole called Clause 45th, I was alarmed," she said. "This is not just affecting Charlton, it's affecting every town in Massachusetts."

Ms. Degnan said large solar farms were developed along the Route 20 commercial corridor in Charlton with the promise of tax revenue. Those installations, she said, displace for at least 20 years other business development that could have brought solid tax revenue to the town.

State legislation filed to close the loophole, she added, has been stuck in the Statehouse for three years.

"It's happening more and more that the Appellate Tax Board is siding with the (developers). Oxford has 17 megawatts that they're going to have to go to court for," Ms. Degnan said, noting the plight in Barre resulted in a refund check.

Oxford Assessor Chris Pupka said he is awaiting an ATB hearing date on its largest solar installation - BlueWave Capital LLC, also known as BlueWave Solar.

If the tax board grants an exemption to BlueWave, he said, the town will lose annual tax revenue of $369,000. It is not yet decided if the town would appeal a tax board decision that favors BlueWave.

Barre Town Administrator Andrew Goals said Quabbin Solar LLC prevailed in its appeal to the ATB and the town had to refund $65,178.

"We had assessed them as personal property taxes. Going forward we entered into a PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreement with them," he said. "It wasn't much of a net loss. It amortizes the payment over 20 years."

The ATB opinion on Quabbin Solar, published Nov. 2, 2017, found the solar output was being used as primary or auxiliary power for heating a property taxable under state Chapter 59, and it therefore qualified for the

exemption provided in Clause 45th. The plain meaning of which requires solar output to supply the energy needs of an entity that pays property tax. In this case, Quabbin was supplying Honey Farms Inc.

Charlton Town Administrator Robin L. Craver recently said the town is in jeopardy of losing its taxing authority over its arrays unless a change is made to the law or the tax board's interpretation of the law.

"This is a big deal for Charlton as we could stand to lose nearly a million of tax revenue," she said. "It's important that people understand that this matters."

The Charlton Board of Assessors is fighting a tax appeal filed by 38 Degrees North LLC, also known as Zero Point Solar.

"If we lose, which we anticipate we will, it'll cost the town thousands of dollars to appeal, which the selectmen have already voted to do," Ms. Craver said.

Charlton has 21 operational solar farms with seven more in permitting. The tax revenue collected last year, she said, was $679,570.00. Next year, with a full build out, the generated tax revenue is expected to exceed $1 million.

Deborah Ceccarini, Charlton director of assessing, said in an interview last week that her office, has been working on the matter for a while in conjunction with the Massachusetts Association of Assessing Officers.

Ms. Ceccarini said the association is pushing for new language in the "very old, antiqued law" adopted in the 1990s meant to regulate individuals developing solar on their personal property.

R. Lane Partridge, of MAAO, said the state Department of Revenue doesn't recognize commercial solar installations as tax exempt, but the ATB has ruled otherwise.

"We have put in legislation for the last three sessions to try it get the confusion straightened out," he said. "We're going to submit a bill with the language that was approved by the Senate in the last session."

The Massachusetts Municipal Association is also in the fight to protect tax revenue for its member communities.

The MMA has written to state lawmakers advocating for the modernization of the long-standing exemption for renewable energy property to better align with the new technologies and business practices that were not anticipated when the law was enacted.

John Robertson of the MMA said in an interview that the tax board decisions to allow exemptions has led to uncertainty about the rules governing solar energy, making it difficult for cities and towns to determine the financial prospects of new projects and the status of existing projects.

Mr. Robertson said he expects to see a multitude of new bills filed in the state House and Senate for the new legislative session now underway.

Regarding the 38 Degrees North move to be declared tax-exempt, Ms. Ceccarini said the town has hired a lawyer from Boston to fight.

"We're going to go to appellate and they're going to turn us down. We will appeal to a higher authority," she said.

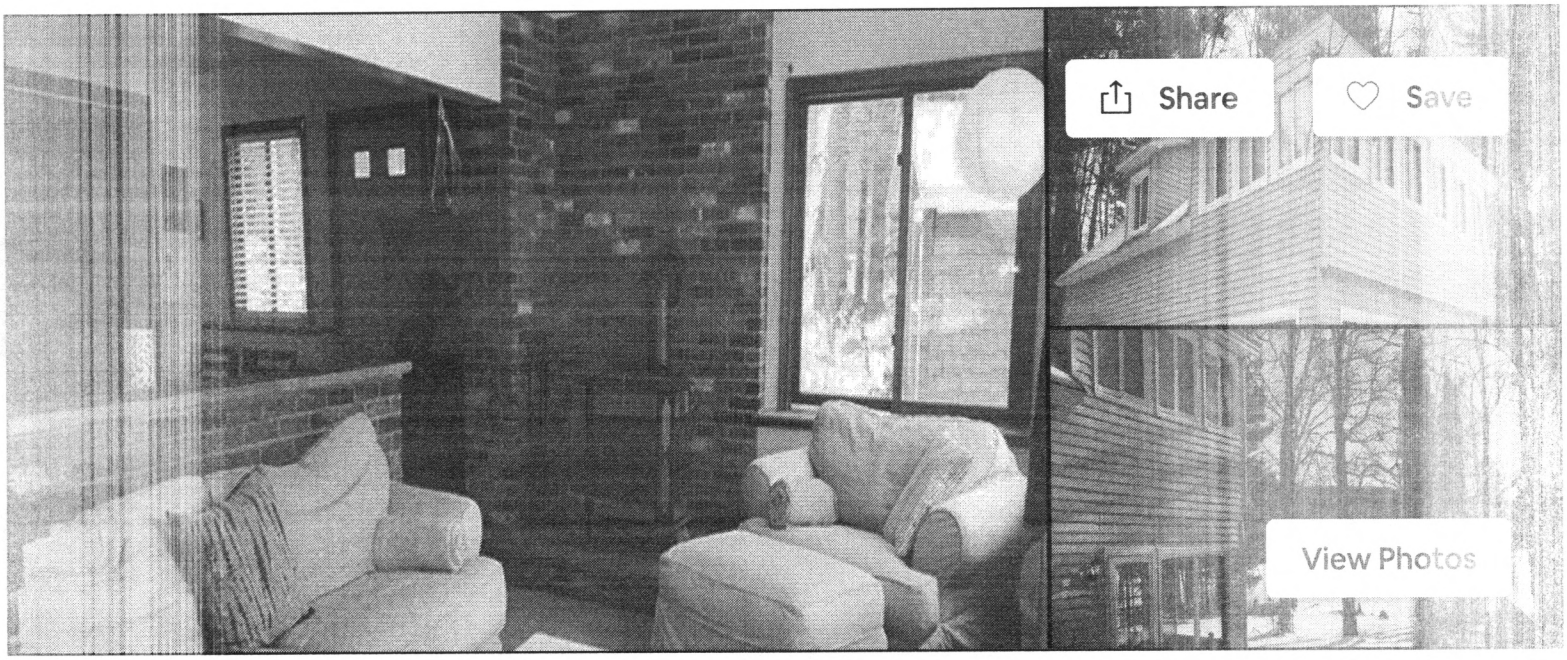
Ms. Craver and Ms. Ceccarini are calling on their state representatives for help.

State Rep. Peter J. Durant, R-Spencer, called the matter a "double-edged sword."

"Solar farms offer a lot of good benefits, but they should not be exempt from paying taxes like everybody else," he said in an interview. "We have subsidized this industry enough. We should not continue subsidizing

them by punishing the towns."

State Sen. Anne M. Gobi, D-Spencer, is set to meet in Charlton with the Board of Assessors at 6 p.m. Tuesday.



ENTIRE COTTAGE

Lake Cottage skiing, snowshoe, Berkshires, MoCA

Rowe

Tara

Entire cottage
8 guests 3 bedrooms 6 beds 1 bath

Great check-in experience
100% of recent guests gave the check-in process a 5-star rating.

Great location
100% of recent guests gave the location a 5-star rating.

Self check-in
Check yourself in with the keypad.

Serene lake front home, comfortable and cozy, near skiing, Berkshire East & Mt. Snow. Unplug-no cell service in this area but WiFi in the house, smart TV for streaming, relax in comfort with a good book, cook delicious meals in the well-supplied kitchen. Comfy beds with 100% cotton linens. Games, movies, hunker in or go out! Perfect for families or groups. Lots to do locally, MOCA, snowshoe, cross country ski, hikes around the lake, Shelburne Falls, Mohawk Trail, Berkshires, Tanglewood.

Contact host

Amenities

Beach essentials

Essentials

Dryer

Heating

Show all 33 amenities

Sleeping arrangements

Bedroom 1
1 king bed

Bedroom 2
1 king bed

Availability

Updated today

February 2019

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

March 2019

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

9 Reviews ★★★★★

Accuracy ★★★★★

Communication ★★★★★

Cleanliness ★★★★★

Location ★★★★★

Check-in ★★★★★

Value ★★★★★

Search reviews

Most relevant

Marlene
January 2019

This was a fantastic spot and great value for a winter get away with friends. Secluded private location on a stunning lake with beautiful sunsets and sunrises. Large kitchen where we

cooked all of our meals (bring food!), plenty of space and beds for 4 women. Very clean and comfo...Read more

---

Charles
November 2018

The house was nice but the area was absolutely beautiful. The house is at least half an hour away from somewhere to shop but the beauty was well worth it. I actually had a hard time driving safely due to all the breathtaking sights. I got to the area for the last of the fall colo... Read more

---

Christopher
October 2018

We loved our stay at the lake house! The pictures do not do this house justice. The first floor is lovely, with expansive lake views from both the kitchen and living room. The upstairs bedrooms were spacious and also offered nice views of the lake. This was a perfect space for my...Read more

---

Hannah
October 2018

Waking up by that beautiful lake was the highlight of the stay! Cozy home close to the spots we were going to raft and zip line at. Plenty of room for all six of us comfortably. Tara was very responsive and clear and check-in was very easy. (Stairs are super small/tight- we ha... Read more

---

Nicole
October 2018

Fantastic weekend away - easy day trip to Mass MOCA and lots to do in nature around the house. Comfortable spot with a great layout for multiple families - wish we could have stayed longer!

James
September 2018

the house was right on the lake and very secluded. the hiking trails around the lake was great. easy communication with tara and even easier check in/out. I will be back to spend more time at this house.

Cherilyn
September 2018

Such a great spot at a reasonable price! All the amenities you could ask for in a summer getaway home are here. I'm looking forward to another stay here next year.

1 2 >

Hosted by Tara

Heath, Massachusetts, United States · Joined in January 2015

★ 25 Reviews Verified

Howdy! I'm a western Massachusetts homesteader, raising sheep, chickens, honey bees, assisted by my dogs, cat and kids. We love to travel and see new places, my favorite place to visit is Costa Rica! I love hosting people in our lake house, it's a wonderful spot that is fun to ...Read more

Response rate: **100%**

Response time: **within a few hours**

Contact host

Always communicate through Airbnb · To protect your payment, never transfer money or communicate outside of the Airbnb website or app. **Learn more**

About the home

When you stay in an Airbnb, you're staying in someone's home.

This is Tara's place.

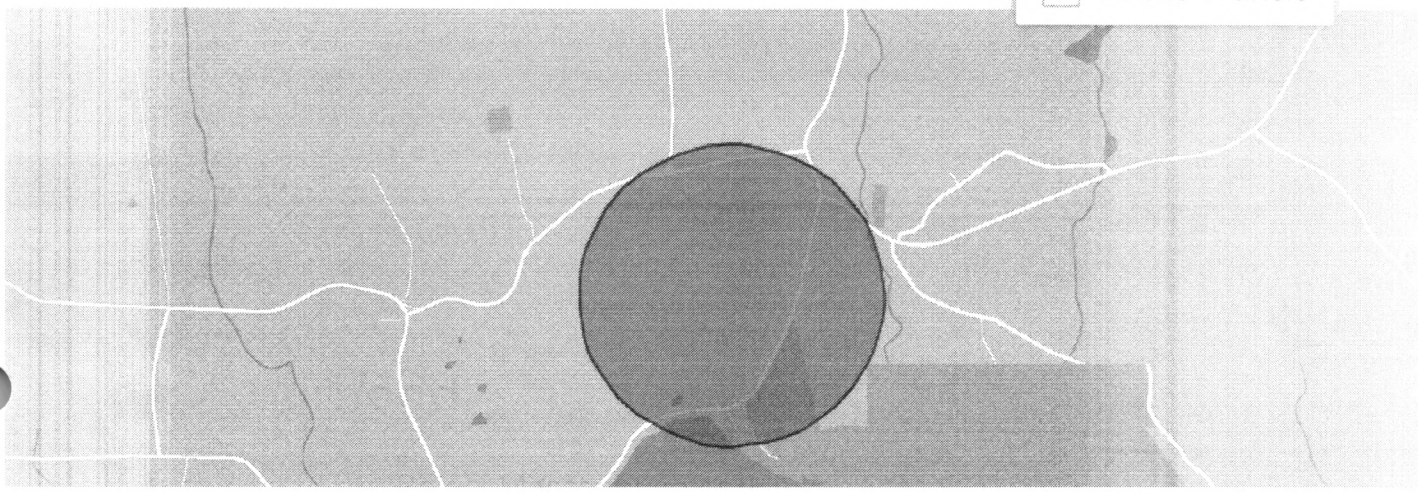
Kate helps host.

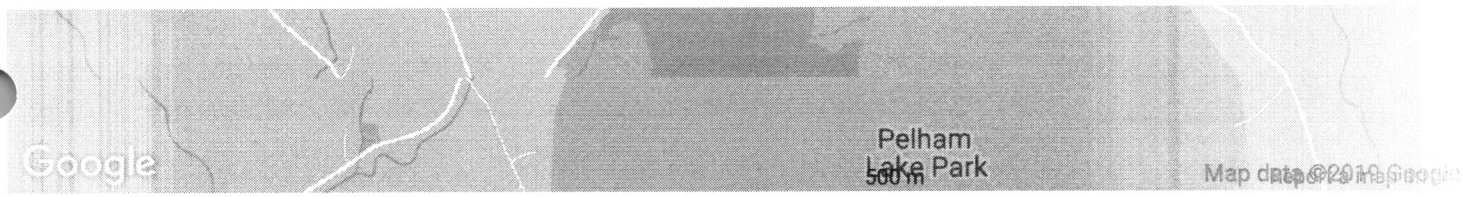
The neighborhood

Tara's home is located in Rowe, Massachusetts, United States.

Skiing, hiking, fine art and culture, peace and quiet.

Public Transit





Exact location information is provided after a booking is confirmed.

Policies

House Rules

No pets

No smoking, parties, or events

Check-in is anytime after 3PM and check out by 11AM

Self check-in with keypad

Cancellations

Strict - **Free cancellation for 48 hours**
After that, cancel up to 7 days before check-in and get a 50% refund, minus the service fee.

Simi

$145 per night

★★★★★ 9

Dates

Check in → Check out

Guests

1 guest

Book

You won't be charged yet

Report this listing

ENTIRE TOWNHOUSE · DOVER

Mt Snow retreat, ski & summer

$170 per night

★★★★★ 109

Things to do near this home

STUDIO VISIT

Make a Handblown Glass Object

$75 per person

5.0 ★★★★★ 26

Explore other options in and around Rowe

More places to stay in Rowe: Apartments · Houses · Bed and breakfasts · Lofts · Villas

Boston
Cambridge
Somerville
East Hampton
Providence
Burlington
Brookline
Woodstock

New Haven
Sag Harbor
Northampton
Newport
Medford
Hudson
Newton
Saugerties
Llanaelhaearn
Porthallow

Gmail

Rowe Planning Board <therowegoalpost@gmail.com>

Yeah well in my opinion you should just quit, if you can. e

2 messages

The Rowe Goal Post - Doug <therowegoalpost@gmail.com> Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 11:53 AM
To: Ellynn Packard <ellynn38@gmail.com>
Bcc: Doug Wilson <dougfirwilson@gmail.com>

I don't want to quit, as I rather enjoy putting the Goal Post together.
I tend to do what I want, sometimes knowing I will get blowback, but so what?
I will probably apply for the new editor job, starting in July, and will use it to defend my job thus far.
I can be a bit scrappy...
And even ornery...
blessings,
Doug
p.s. I am going to watch the Super Bowl at Andy Smith's, but he only has four seats, so Prue can't come, so I was wondering if she could watch at your house (if she wants to...)

This is what I sent to Priscilla:
David Roberson is anal compulsive and difficult to deal with. Jack Williams got me to be on the Planning Board to counter Davis's presence, but I tend to get along with him, generally. He has his own ideas about what is appropriate in the Goal Post. I don't always agree, though I haven't articulated an alternative. I do, however, take actions like publishing your essay that seem appropriate to me. There are so few people sending things in that it seems discouraging to tell them to go jump in the lake.

It's about 20 here and the cold snap hasn't quite arrived, but it is coming. I've been thinking a lot about people throughout history, before central heat, and wondering how they kept warm.

blessings,
Doug

> Thanks for writing. We do feel better but hope you will not be punished for our writing. It does seem important for the Goal Post to allow citizen's freedom of the press!
>
> Hope it is not too cold up there. We are freezing and it is only 28'
> Priscilla
>
>> Doug,
>>
>> As I wrote you a week ago (see below), **I did not write, nor did I submit the Goal Post policy for publication, so the credit, attributed to me, is incorrect**.

On the next page, the submission by Priscilla and David Little, beyond being obviously self-serving (to you), seeks to influence political opinion by saying the Planning Board's vote to cease publication is "a mistake". Additionally, they hope the tennis courts will be kept from deteriorating further. **This is an opinionated essay designed to influence public opinion on the actions of voters and town government**. It's juxtaposition opposite the editorial policy is woefully ironic.

I honestly don't know if you simply can't comprehend this, or if you are intentionally thumbing your nose at me and the rest of the board.

David

The Rowe Goal Post - Doug <therowegoalpost@gmail.com> Wed, Jan 30, 2019 at 12:20 PM
To: Ellynn Packard <ellynn38@gmail.com>, jack and ellynn packard <jackpackard373@gmail.com>
Bcc: Doug Wilson <dougfirwilson@gmail.com>

Al ....Williams....is he still in town? I thought he left. I think so, too, but wasn't sure.

We arent watching the sb I dont think. I thought you watched the last playoff, when they went into overtime. I have been getting into the game by seeing it as Men's Ballet. They do amazing things with their bodies. It is much better than watching basketball, where they just keep going back and forth. And it's better than football. to actually play, but football is way more varied. Baseball has it's own charm, but 162 games a year is way too many. So I only get interested in about the fifth game of the world series.

[Quoted text hidden]

Gmail

Rowe Planning Board <therowegoalpost@gmail.com>

Hi Ellynn and Jack

1 message

The Rowe Goal Post - Doug <therowegoalpost@gmail.com> Fri, Feb 1, 2019 at 12:52 PM
To: Ellynn Packard <ellynn38@gmail.com>, jack and ellynn packard <jackpackard373@gmail.com>
Bcc: Doug Wilson <dougfirwilson@gmail.com>

Due to your distaste for Mr. Roberson, and your writing skills, I wanted to run this by for your opinions before I send them to David. I actually thought you might find this at least interesting, and perhaps even funny. But please tell me where I might change this.
blessings,
Doug

I took the Goal Post Policy from the email you sent me from 2012, which was from a Goal Post that was published before I was the editor. In that Goal Post it said the policy was submitted by you, so I just copied it.

One of the frustrations of being the editor of the Goal Post is that there are way too few articles submitted by people in the town. I'm trying to encourage people to write in the Goal post. The most trouble I've received from townspeople has been around editing. My editing has been criticized, so I've been trying to do print things as they are submitted. If I were to send it back to the Littles and say we're only going to publish part of what they wrote is a bad idea, in my opinion.

While the Littles said something nice about the Goal Post, nothing in the letter looks like a political opinion to me. I consider political opinions to be along the lines of " I think so and so should be elected to the Board of Selectman." The Littles expressing their hopes about the maintenance of the tennis courts doesn't feel like a political opinion to me. Instead, it is an expression of a hope they have and I want to encourage people to share their hopes and other opinions about life in Rowe.

In your interpretation, it would be possible to call almost anything is a political opinion. If political opinions are about elections, and similar matters, the expression of hope that the tennis courts can be maintained is not political. Nor is expressing an opinion about the quality of the Goal Post political. It's just an opinion and I wish more people in town would express their opinions.

I have my own ideas about what the Goal Post should be like and you get to see what that is every month. What people think of the Goal Post is highly interesting to me.

Respectfully,

Doug

Doug,

As I wrote you a week ago (see below), **I did not write, nor did I submit the Goal Post policy for publication, so the credit, attributed to me, is incorrect**.

On the next page, the submission by Priscilla and David Little, beyond being obviously self-serving (to you), seeks to influence political opinion by saying the Planning Board's vote to cease publication is "a mistake". Additionally, they hope the tennis courts will be kept from deteriorating further. **This is an opinionated essay designed to influence public opinion on the actions of voters and town government**. It's juxtaposition opposite the editorial policy is woefully ironic.

I honestly don't know if you simply can't comprehend this, or if you are intentionally thumbing your nose at me and the rest of the board.

David

Gmail

Rowe Planning Board <therowegoalpost@gmail.com>

Re: Goal Post letter

2 messages

Douglas Wilson <dougfirwilson@gmail.com> Sat, Jan 19, 2019 at 11:51 AM
To: Priscilla Little <littleprisc@gmail.com>

Thank you for this very kind and timely article.
My apologies for taking my time to respond.
Life is not only interesting, but tricky, as "time is of the essence…"
I have made some suggestions for edits, below, though you need to approve or ignore them.
Hopefully you can send a revised version in the next couple of days.
blessings,
Doug

If you think this should be published in the Goal Post, we would like it to appear in the next issue.
I hope it helps.
Best,
Priscilla and David

This is the same as what is below. in word.

This is the original.

Needs a Title

Inspired by Susan Tomlison's **fascinating/informative/heart-felt** (*just an idea, but a description of the article in your own words would, methinks, be nice*) article in the January 2019 ~~issue of the~~ *Goal Post*, we want to ~~also~~ write of our appreciation for ~~the~~ Rowe's monthly magazine.

Like Susan, ~~W~~we weren't born in Rowe **either**, but our summer stays have offered us a place to have family gatherings, easy access to cultural events, and to participate in community gatherings. Fifteen years ago~~,~~ our friend, Alice Hageman, invited us to visit from Cambridge ,~~MA~~ for a weekend and we **(thought it was beautiful/exquisite/unusually lovely) and/so we** decided to become ~~part-time~~ Rowe residents **during our summers.**

We have learned that the Planning Board has decided to stop publishing the *Goal Post* and we think that is a mistake. In the spirit of the New Year, we want to take this opportunity to list **some of** the positive aspects of the Goal

Post.

The health news articles by Sheila Litchfield, **the** town nurse, are always informative and interesting. We **also** love having her available in Rowe for medical consultation.

The new books listed in the ~~L~~ library ~~N~~ news by the d ~~D~~irector, Molly Lane, stimulate us and expand our knowledge of current literature. The library staff has been very responsive, particularly by instigating a new book group.

We appreciate the magazine's recent coverage of the arrival of ~~B~~ broadband. "Broadband Update" by David Dvore ~~,~~ keeps us informed of the schedule of this exciting new development. We know it has taken a great deal of time and effort and we so appreciate learning about what it will mean for the future of Rowe.

We read the regular reports from the town ~~A~~ **a**ssessor, Rick Williams, with great care, as well as the current tax information about ~~P~~ personal ~~P~~ property exemptions.

Although ~~we are~~ **we're** not winter residents, ~~we are~~ **we're** eager to read about the school, the birthdays, and the other activities, including the ~~Rowe Camp's~~ **camp and conference center's** schedule.

Finally, ~~we are~~ **we're** delighted to learn about Rowe's contribution to the Good Neighbors Food Pantry and to the Charlemont Forum. Cooperation between hill towns is most encouraging and helps all communities ~~to prosper~~ in the western part of the state **to prosper**.

We thank Doug Wilson for his dedication to keeping us informed in such a substantial l way.

Priscilla and David Little

PS. As tennis players, ~~we are~~ **we're** always interested in the upkeep of the park ~~Park~~ and the maintenance of the tennis courts. We hope the tennis courts will be kept from deteriorating further as ~~it is~~ **it's** a big asset to our family. Weather permitting, ~~We~~ we all play tennis almost daily from June to September, ~~weather permitting.~~

~~P and D Little~~

---

2 attachments

Priscilla & David Little's Essay.docx
20K

Rowe letter.docx
9K

Douglas Wilson <dougfirwilson@gmail.com> Sat, Jan 19, 2019 at 7:00 PM
To: Priscilla Little <littleprisc@gmail.com>

Thank you for writing this.
I appreciate it a lot.
You are good neighbors.
Please give this one last read.
blessings,
Doug

Needs a Title:
Reflections Regarding Rowe comes to mind, though it is a little cutsie. Not everyone likes alliteration.

Inspired by Susan Tomlison's heart-felt article in the January 2019 Goal Post, we want to write of our appreciation for Rowe's monthly magazine.

Like Susan, we weren't born in Rowe either, but our summer stays have offered us a place to have family gatherings, easy access to cultural events, and to participate in community gatherings. Fifteen years ago our friend Alice Hageman invited us to visit from Cambridge for a weekend and we thought it was impressive and decided to become Rowe residents during our summers.

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Priscilla and David Little

P.S. As tennis players, we're always interested in the upkeep of the park ~~Park~~ and the maintenance of the tennis courts. We hope the tennis courts will be kept from deteriorating further as it's a big asset to our family. Weather permitting, we all play tennis almost daily from June to September.

On Jan 19, 2019, at 3:24 PM, Priscilla Little <littleprisc@gmail.com> wrote:

Doug,
The edits are fine. We like heart- felt, and -Rowe - thought it was impressive, and decided to become Rowe residents. You are right to fix the caps so full steam ahead. I hope things will change.
Priscilla
[Quoted text hidden]
<Priscilla & David Little's Essay.docx>

This is the same as what is below. in word.

<Rowe letter.docx>

This is the original.

Needs a Title

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Like Susan, ~~W~~we weren't born in Rowe **either**, but our summer stays have offered us a place to have family gatherings, easy access to cultural events, and to participate in community gatherings. Fifteen years ago~~,~~ our friend, Alice Hageman, invited us to visit from Cambridge ~~, MA~~ for a weekend and we **(thought it was beautiful/exquisite/unusually lovely) and/so we** decided to become ~~part-time~~ Rowe residents **during our summers.**

We have learned that the Planning Board has decided to stop publishing the *Goal Post* and we think that is a mistake. In the spirit of the New Year, we want to take this opportunity to list **some of** the positive aspects of the Goal Post.

The health news articles by Sheila Litchfield, **the** town nurse, are always

informative and interesting. We **also** love having her available in Rowe for medical consultation.

The new books listed in the ~~L~~ library ~~N~~ news by the d ~~D~~irector, Molly Lane, stimulate us and expand our knowledge of current literature. The library staff has been very responsive, particularly by instigating a new book group.

We appreciate the magazine's recent coverage of the arrival of ~~B~~ broadband. "Broadband Update" by David Dvore , keeps us informed of the schedule of this exciting new development. We know it has taken a great deal of time and effort and we so appreciate learning about what it will mean for the future of Rowe.

We read the regular reports from the town ~~A~~ **a**ssessor, Rick Williams, with great care, as well as the current tax information about ~~P~~ personal ~~P~~ property exemptions.

Although ~~we are~~ **we're** not winter residents, ~~we are~~ **we're** eager to read about the school, the birthdays, and the other activities, including the ~~Rowe Camp's~~ **camp and conference center's** schedule.

Finally, ~~we are~~ **we're** delighted to learn about Rowe's contribution to the Good Neighbors Food Pantry and to the Charlemont Forum. Cooperation between hill towns is most encouraging and helps all communities ~~to prosper~~ in the western part of the state **to prosper**.

We thank Doug Wilson for his dedication to keeping us informed in such a substantial l way.

Priscilla and David Little

PS. As tennis players, ~~we are~~ **we're** always interested in the upkeep of the park ~~Park~~ and the maintenance of the tennis courts. We hope the tennis courts will be kept from deteriorating further as ~~it is~~ **it's** a big asset to our family. Weather permitting, ~~We~~ we all play tennis almost daily from June to September, ~~weather permitting.~~

~~P and D Little~~