

**MINUTES**  
**By-Law Study Committee**  
**January 26, 2016 – 5:02 p.m.**  
**Town Office Building, Conference Room 1**

**PRESENT:** John Broderick, Ed Lennon, Dave Sanders and Beverly Litchfield.

**ABSENT:** Mike Mannix and Judi Theocles

**GUESTS:** Denise and Fred Kelly

**Call to order:** Meeting was called to order by Chairman John at 5:02 p.m.

**I. Acceptance of minutes:**

**Motion:** Made by Dave Sanders and seconded by Ed Lennon to approve the minutes of January 19, 2016 as published. **Approved unanimously.**

**II. New business:** No discussion on Town Clerk elected vs appointed at this time. Bev handed out info she gathered on the Tree Warden position. Discussion ensued. Since the elected Tree Warden goes away in 2018, should we leave things alone until then? Ed Lennon will look at suggested wording for the next meeting. John reminded all about the February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting with the Selectmen.

**III. Old business:** The ongoing discussion of the “**chicken by-law**” was taken out of order this meeting due to our guests, Denise and Fred Kelly. Denise had sent an email to Chairman John with concerns. Fred explained their situation on their property. He broke down their history with the owner of 276 Stony Hill Rd. The Kelly family lives at 3 Old Farm Rd. They provided us with handouts/pictures showing the track record of this issue. Chairman John tried to explain what we, as a committee, are trying to achieve with this by-law. A lengthy discussion continued. Fred and Denise Kelly recommended that each property should be viewed on a case by case basis and permitted. They also noted that there are many current town by-laws that aren’t enforced and they wouldn’t want this to be another one. Our committee recommended that they speak to the board of selectmen and Dave Sanders gave them names of other people to speak with also. After Fred and Denise Kelly left our meeting those members present decided to wait until Judi and Mike were here to continue the discussion. Items for discussion were roosters, selling eggs and the number of birds. All of these items could be issues going forward. There should be public input before a decision is finalized. **Public Safety Advisory Committee** – Ed Lennon referred us to the last handout he provided on Jan. 19<sup>th</sup>. Ed brought us up to speed on section 505. He listed the pros and cons by others involved. It was decided that Ed would write up a proposed Public Safety Advisory Committee and a Fire Department Advisory Committee to submit to the board of selectmen for them to choose. **Recall Elections** – not discussed this meeting.

- IV. **Article V and section 500 “committees” (headings):** Chairman John provided a handout. Only a slight change was recommended but rest of Article V proposal was accepted by all.
- V. **Section 515 – By-Law Study Committee** - Chairman John’s handout showed two proposals. It was suggested to amend the one (1) year term to a two (2) year term.
- VI. **Public comment** – Fred and Denise Kelly offered comment on the “chicken by-law” earlier in the agenda.
- VII. **Next meeting date** - Scheduled for Thursday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM.
- VIII. **Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Dave Sanders and seconded by Ed Lennon. Approved unanimously.**

**Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted, Beverly J. Litchfield, Clerk

Minutes approved: February 18, 2016