

MINUTES
By-Law Study Committee
February 04, 2016 – 5:00 p.m.
Town Office Building, Conference Room 1

PRESENT: John Broderick, Ed Lennon, Dave Sanders, Judi Theocles

ABSENT: Mike Mannix and Beverly Litchfield

Call to order: Meeting was called to order by Chairman John at 5:00 p.m.

- I. Acceptance of minutes:
The minutes of the 01/26/16 meeting were not available.
- II. Discussion of the Town Clerk position being elected or appointed and the salary issues of an experienced town clerk vs. a person being new to such a position. Judi Theocles spoke about the burdensome issues town clerks have to deal with and the knowledge they need to possess to carry out their responsibilities. There was discussion about whether the current assistant clerk would be interested in the position. The committee agreed that more information is needed.
- III. Judi Theocles spoke about the Commission on Disability requesting a seat on the Community Preservation Committee. There was discussion about adding language to the by-law that the committee should seek input from other boards and committees when considering projects.
- IV. There was discussion on items to be presented to the selectmen on 02/16/16. The proposal regarding a recall elections by-law was discussed. The format of a potential recall by-law could become complicated. The committee expressed that such a proposal should be as simple as possible. The need to set a deadline for all by-laws issues currently being worked on was discussed. The committee spoke about getting the selectmen's position on the Finance Committee's request for a quorum change was discussed. There was discussion on the format of the information to be presented to the selectmen on 02/16/16.
- V. The committee spoke about the potential of a Public Safety Advisory Committee. If that option is explored, the by-law study committee considered that this new committee should have the number of members increased from the current proposal of three members to five members.
- VI. There was discussion on the proposed keeping of chickens by-law. The issue of whether or not roosters should be allowed was discussed. Dave Sanders brought up that the by-law appeared to be close to completion but there some issues to be worked on. Ed

Lennon stated that he would let the animal control officer know about the current status of the proposal.

VII Next meeting dates: Joint meeting with the selectmen on 02/16/16.

VIII Meeting adjourned at 7:11pm.

Respectfully submitted Edward Lennon

Minutes approved: 02/18/16