



**Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 5, 2019
Scituate High School Gym
6:15 pm**

Committee Members Present: Jerry Kelly, Chair, Mike Westort, Vice Chair; Lincoln Heineman; Jamie Gilmore; Patrice Metro; Elise Russo; Andrew Goodrich; Dan McGuiggin

Committee Members not present: Sean deLacy

Jerry Kelly called the meeting to order at 6:21 PM

Jamie Gilmore made a motion to approve the agenda; seconded by Elise Russo; Unanimous vote (7-0)

ARTICLE 4. Acceptance of Loan – Third Cliff FEMA Subsidized Storm Repairs (Consent Agenda)

This is a placeholder article in case the Town is successful in its application to the Dam & Seawall Repair Fund for the FEMA subsidized repairs of storm damage to the Third Cliff area.

Jerry Kelly said that article would allow the Town to take out a low interest loan through the Dam and Seawall Loan Fund, if it is offered from the Commonwealth. The money would be used for revetment repair at Third Cliff which was damaged in the storm. This article would eliminate the need to call a special meeting

Elise Russo asked if the FEMA reimbursement was guaranteed, Jerry said he did not know, but said thought that the Town borrowing from the Commonwealth could be contingent on the FEMA reimbursement.

Lincoln Heineman said that it did not specify about FEMA funds in the article.

Patrice Metro wanted to verify that the Town can only borrow if they received the FEMA funds before she voted.

The vote was tabled so Nancy Holt could advise, if back from the Board of Selectmen's meeting in time.

ARTICLE 6. Zoning Bylaw Amendment – Signs (Section 710)

This article will amend Section 710 of the Zoning Bylaws relevant to Temporary Signs as on file in the Town Clerk's Office and discussed during the Planning Board's September 26, 2019 public hearing.

Andrew Goodrich reached out to Brad Washburn for clarification on the article.

- Town Meeting was not considered an election, therefore signs for Town meeting would not be considered political

- Merry Christmas, boat sales and beware of dog signs fall under the 30 day restraint.
- A flag is not a sign.
- A political sign can be up for 60 days if there is an election somewhere in the Commonwealth

There was a question regarding signs for recall elections and how that would work.

This article was written because the Town's old by-laws are unconstitutional according to the ACLU.

Jamie asked Andrew if the rewrite [of the article] addressed his needs, Andrew said no.

Lincoln said the issue is with duration and the type of sign (freedom of speech) and that it is unconstitutional.

Andrew is also still concerned with length of time a sign can be up.

Lincoln thinks the article is reasonable for size and number of signs. All signs cannot be bigger than 12 feet.

There was discussion if the original by-law would stay in place if this article did not pass. Lincoln said it would stay and then the Town would decide if they want to enforce it.

Jamie said that Andrew could make a suggestion as a private citizen on the Town Meeting floor with recommended verbiage for the article.

Patrice didn't think they had enough time to discuss the changes in the article and felt that the ambiguity was still present in the article.

Mike Westort entered the meeting at 6:35 PM

Elise agreed with Patrice.

Jerry said that the Town currently has a poor by-law and that this article does not improve it.

Patrice thought we should take some advice from Town Counsel.

Article 6 Vote:

To accept the zoning by-law amendment

Advisory Vote: Majority not in Favor (7 opposed and 1 abstained). The Majority opinion is that the duration a sign can be posted is still a concern and that the article is ambiguous.

Article 4 Vote:

For the Town to accept a \$3 million dollar low interest loan if offered by the State.

Advisory Vote: Unanimous Vote (8 -0) in Favor

Nancy Holt returned from the Board of Selectmen Meeting at 6:51 PM.

Nancy Holt was asked about Article 4 and said that FEMA has committed to the project.

Lincoln noticed that the vote for the Community Preservation Article 5 was not reflected correctly in the Advisory Booklet and asked that the Committee take a re-vote.

Article 5 re-Vote:

Use of CPC funds

1. Stone Mile Markers: Advisory Vote: **Unanimous Vote (8-0) in Favor**
2. North Scituate Train Canopy: Advisory Vote: **Majority in Favor (6 in favor -2 opposed)**

Lincoln reminded the Committee to always add a new piece of information when you speak about your article.

Jerry Kelly made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 3rd meeting with non-substantive changes; seconded by Jamie Gilmore, (7 in favor and 1 abstention, Dan McGuiggin)

Jerry Kelly made a motion to suspend the Advisory Meeting at 6:54 PM until the end of Town Meeting when it will be adjourned; seconded by Lincoln Heineman. The meeting adjourned at 10:44 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lianne Cataldo (Recording Secretary)

Referenced Materials:

- Agenda
- Minutes
- Warrant
- Advisory Booklet

On-going Items:

- The next chairman of the Committee attend the Association of Town Finance Committees training
- Security Upgrades to Town Facilities , Jim said he would get the break down.