

TOWN OF WENHAM

Board of Selectmen  
Meeting of April 2, 2016  
Bessie Buker School, School Street

Pursuant to the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. Chapter 30 A, §§ 18-25, written notice posted by the Town Clerk delivered to all Board members, a meeting of the Board of Selectmen (BOS) was held on SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2016 at 12:15 PM in the Tech Lab, prior to Town Meeting.

**WELCOME: CALL TO ORDER**

With a quorum present, Ms. Harrison called the Board of Selectmen (BOS) meeting to order 12:19 PM  
Selectmen present: Catherine Harrison, Chair; Jack Wilhelm, Vice Chair; John Clemenzi, Clerk  
Also Present: Peter Lombardi, Town Administrator; Catherine Tinsley, Recording Secretary  
Town Counsel Attorney Lauren Goldberg, Kopelman & Paige; Anthony Feeherry, Interim Town Moderator  
Paul Weaver, Former Town Moderator/Town Counsel

Unanticipated items related to Town Meeting warrant articles and motions.

In response to two residents who submitted in writing a proposal to amend Article 20: Bylaw Adoption: Demolition Delay for Historic Buildings, Ms. Goldberg suggested the follow amendments to the Demolition Delay Bylaw

1. Delete the list of (47) buildings of those properties in Town that have been specifically identified in the warrant as being affected by a demolition bylaw; The Building Inspector would make the determination if a building is under the jurisdiction of the Historic Commission / Demolition bylaw
2. Change the Commission's vote on Demolition Delay Applications from a majority vote of the quorum of the Commission to a 2/3 vote of the Commission (five of the seven member)
3. Change the appeals process by providing a local avenue to appeal to the BOS first within 14 days of the Commission rendering a decision before going to the courts

The proposed amendment was discussed at length with Town Counsel.

A motion to include all three amendments for Town Meeting floor was discussed and drafted by Attorney Goldberg.

It was agreed that Jim Howard, Chair of the Historic District Commission, would make cite the fact that a motion would be made on Town Meeting floor after his presentation and before public comment, and that Ms. Harrison would then read the amendment to the motion as prepared by Town Counsel.

Ms. Goldberg will be asked to explain how this amendment makes the bylaw a more simplified and local process.

Jim Howard, Chair of the Historic Commission (HC), was present to hear the final decision of the BOS and concurred with the three elements of the proposed amendment.

*VOTE: Mr. Wilhelm moved, and it was seconded, to amend the main motion of Article 20 by amending the provision of 2.10 D1 & D2 to change the Commissions quantum vote from majority vote to 2/3 vote of the Commission (5 of the 7 commissioners); and to delete the last sentence of the list of properties in its entirety; and to amend section 8 and change the language that an aggrieved applicant may first seek a determination from the BOS within 14 days of the HC decision and that the BOS would make a decision within 21 days. The motion carried unanimously.*

The BOS unanimously adjourned at 12:38 PM

Respectfully submitted by  
Catherine Tinsley  
5.12.16