

APPROVED 4.21.15

TOWN OF WENHAM

Board of Selectmen
Meeting of April 11, 2015
Bessie Buker School, 1 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, 11 2015 at 12 PM in the Conference Room.

WELCOME AND OVERVIEW OF THE AGENDA

With a quorum present, Mr. Wilhelm called the Board of Selectmen (BOS) meeting to order at 12 PM.
Selectmen present: Jack Wilhelm, Chair; Catherine Harrison, Vice Chair; Ken Whittaker, Clerk
Also Present: Catherine Tinsley, Minutes Secretary; John Clemenzi, Selectman Candidate

Discussion- Annual Town Meeting & Special Town Meeting Discussion / Action

At their posted meeting of March 31, 2015, the BOS unanimously agreed to consider whether or not to recommend Article 22 - Conversion of Cemetery Commission to an Appointed Town Board to the Town Meeting during this (4.11.15) posted session.

Ms. Harrison proposed the BOS recommend to Town Meeting not to approve Article 22 to allow for the BOS to better plan and understand the rolls and responsibilities of the Cemetery Commission and what the impact would be, if any, to converting from an elected Commission to an appointed Board. She noted because of the timing this question would not be on this years' annual election ballot, and therefore could be presented at the 2016 annual Town Meeting with the same result.

A discussion followed with Mr. Whittaker observing that there have been no candidates for this Commission the past two years, and supported converting this to an appointed board to assure it is managed according to all laws and bylaws, citing questions that have come up this past year.

Mr. Wilhelm supported the conversion, saying because this question would not go on the ballot until the 2016 annual elections, the Town has a year to plan under the guidance of the new Town Administrator, adding this is just a recommendation and if the town does not want this, they will vote accordingly.

Mr. Wilhelm moved, and it was seconded, to recommend favorable action on Article 22 - Conversion of Cemetery Commission to an Appointed Town Board to the Town Meeting. The motion carried by majority vote 2-0 with Ms. Harrison voting in the negative.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Town Administrator's Contract

VOTE: Ms. Harrison moved the BOS enter into Executive Session at 12:06 PM according to MGL chapter 30A Sec 21 for the purpose of Exemption (2). To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel, Peter Lombardi, Town Administrator Finalist, and to include Selectman Candidate, John Clemenzi and return to open session. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The BOS returned to open session at 12:26 PM and the Chair declared no votes were made in ES.

Mr. Whittaker moved to recess and reconvene in Town Meeting and it was unanimous to do so. The BOS adjourned at the conclusion of Town Meeting at 3:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Catherine Tinsley
4.13.15