

TOWN MEETING STUDY AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

(TMSIC)

Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Town Meeting Study and Improvement Committee was held on Monday, March 14, 2022. Renaldo A. Deluzio being the chair called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Present at the meeting were seven members of the committee: Charles M. Clark, Sr., Renaldo A. Deluzio, Kathryn L. Mastroianni, Christine Crean, Richard A. Heller, Jose M. Morais and Michael Visconti. Participating Applicants to the Committee present: Mr. W. Long, Gregory Johnson. Michelangelo Bon Tempo, Consultant Volunteer was also present.

Administrative Items:

Chairman DeLuzio announced that Catherine Porter (Committee Clerk) has resigned from the Committee. He also announced the meeting was being recorded. There were no objections to the meeting being recorded.

1. Approval of the minutes: January 10, 2022 minutes were accepted as presented.

Christine Crean was nominated for Committee Clerk. No other nominations. Vote was unanimous.

2. Invitation to Speak: No one requested to speak

3. Town Meeting Member Survey 2022:

Chairman DeLuzio announced that progress has slowed due to efforts required for Pre-Town Meeting Forum planning. The first two trial Learner survey's (10 questions each) were successfully sent to Committee members, Mr. Long, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Cole and returned via the TMSIC's email account. The final Learner survey (10 questions) is in process and will be sent to the same recipients via the IT Dept. to test that process.

Chairman DeLuzio provided a handout regarding revisions to questions D3 and E3 as a result of comments from the 2/14/2022 meeting.

Question D3 (Select Board to adopt a policy to justify capital expenditures that cannot be postponed to the Annual Town Meeting) --- No objection to the revision.

Question E3 (Town Meeting Member Attendance) 2/14/22 action items:

1. Check with Town Counsel to regarding Rule Change (C. Boddy no rule change required)
2. Check with Town Clerk to see if their office can do this. (Meeting held on 2/10/22. They do not have the resources nor expertise to do it.)
3. Check the Town Website to see what is actually posted. (Attendance of each Town Meeting session is posted).
4. Definition of "Day": When not qualified, is a calendar day.

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Chairman DeLuzio reported the Town Clerk is not familiar with how to transfer town meeting attendance from a PDF to an excel spread sheet. Bryan Cole, (Volunteer Consultant), responded via email that this endeavor can be labor intensive but can be done. He suggested assigning each town member a unique ID number . This would be a way of ensuring consistency from year to year. Town Clerk's Office personnel does not have the capability or resources to do this. Gregory Johnson offered to work on the spreadsheet.

Discussion ensued regarding question E3. Chairman DeLuzio recommended it be removed from the survey because it would result in a biased response. Those who have a good record would be in favor and those who did not, would oppose. It is a question that it is more appropriate for the electorate. Mr. Long, Mr. Visconti, and Mr. Bon Tempo disagreed with the Chairman's views. The question will be included.

Mr. Visconti moved to remove the first sentence in question E3 "Provided attendance records can be easily complied electronically,". 2 in favor; 5 opposed. Motion fails.

4. Town Meeting Procedural Guild:

Mr. Bon Tempo received comments from Mr. Long, Mr. Clark, Chairman DeLuzio and Mr. Visconti. Mr. Bon Tempo will consider incorporating them in the next revision for the next meeting. Mr. Bon Tempo requested that if anyone who would like to complete the review sheet, please send them to him in advance of the next meeting.

5. Electronic Voting:

Chairman DeLuzio reported he has communicated with Christopher George about next steps for electronic voting and reminded him of his initiative to set up a meeting with Chairman DeLuzio, Christopher George and Town Moderator BonTempo. Chairman DeLuzio is waiting to hear from Christopher about when this meeting will happen.

6. Pre-Town Meeting Forum:

Handout of the time line of tasks needed to be done from now until the Pre-Town Meeting Forum on May 17th. The time line will be impacted by when the Select Board approves the Warrant.

Press Releases: Time lines for press releases don't always a line up with when the warrant is released. Chairman DeLuzio will keep an eye on this and will adjust the time line accordingly.

Discussion ensued regarding why some media outlets are used and others not. Chairman DeLuzio noted that he needed to reduce the amount of effort he has to spend preparing additional releases for Milford TV Bulletin Board (which are unreadable), Milford FM Radio, and Milford TV news programs with seemingly little benefit. We have to focus on the Town Meeting Members communications.

Press release drafts were handed out, reviewed and corrected. Discussion about options Town Meeting Members have with sending in questions about articles they want addressed at the Pre-Town forum (mail, drop box, etc.).

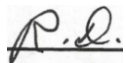
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Discussion ensued regarding how many Town Meeting Members need to respond to request for articles to justify proceeding with the forum. It was the consensus of the meeting that a minimum of 15% of Town Meeting Members (excluding TMSIC members) would justify proceeding.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. DeLuzio", is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Reno DeLuzio
Chairman

Approved: 4/11/22