

**TOWN MEETING STUDY AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE
(TMSIC)**

**TOWN HALL
52 MAIN STREET MILFORD, MA 01757**

Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Town Meeting Study and Improvement Committee was held on Monday, September 24, 2018, in Room 14 of the Town Hall. Renaldo A. DeLuzio being in the chair called the meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.

Present at the meeting were eight members of the Committee: Renaldo A. DeLuzio (Chairman), Bartholomew R. Lawless (Vice-chairman), Michelangelo Bon Tempo (Clerk), Susan Marie Hastert, Richard A. Heller, Kathryn L. Mastroianni, Richard A. Morrison and Steven J. Trettel. Two Participating Applicants to the Committee were present: Charles M. Clark, Sr. and B. Gregory Johnson. Present from the public was Michael P. Visconti, Jr.

1. Chairman DeLuzio moved to accept the minutes of the regular meeting of August 27, 2018 as read.

The motion was carried unanimously.

2. Chairman DeLuzio informed the Committee that due to a lack of clarity in his correspondence with Richard Villani, Town Administrator, the Committee was given sponsorship of Article 22 on the Warrant for the October 15, 2018 Special Town Meeting.

Mr. Morrison moved not to sponsor Article 22. Mr. Morrison argued that the Committee could not sponsor the Article as the matter was moved and voted on at the last regular meeting to refer the matter to the Town Administrator.

Chairman DeLuzio, Mr. Bon Tempo, Dr. Heller and Ms. Mastroianni argued against Mr. Morrison's motion.

Mr. Johnson, Participating Applicant, stated that the Warrant having been published and posted cannot be changed at this time.

Mr. Visconti, member of the public, stated that the Article is for all intents and purposes a "housekeeping article."

The motion was defeated, 1 in favor, 7 opposed.

Mr. Bon Tempo pointed out that the wording of Article 22 as found in the Warrant contained errors – specifically, the preamble and Section 4(b). Mr. Bon Tempo provided two options for the Committee to consider for correcting those errors in the motion to be presented at Town Meeting.

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Mr. Bon Tempo moved to adopt option 2 for the preamble and Section 4(b) of Article 22. Please note that deletions are struck through in red font and that additions are in green font.

Option 2

MOTION FOR ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the Legislature for special legislation to provide for ~~current~~ **incumbent** town meeting members to become candidates for reelection by giving written notice **to the town clerk** instead of ~~by~~ filing nomination papers, which legislation shall provide substantially as follows:

“SECTION 1. Chapter 271 of the acts of 1933 is hereby amended by striking out section 4, as most recently amended by section 1 of chapter 180 of the acts of 2011, and inserting in place thereof the following section:

Section 4. (a) Nominations of candidates for town meeting members to be elected under this act shall be made by nomination papers, which shall bear no political designation, shall be signed by not less than 30 voters of the precinct in which the candidate resides, and shall be filed with the town clerk at least 35 days before the election. No nomination papers shall be valid in respect to any candidate whose written acceptance is not thereon or attached thereto when filed.

Section (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the fourth paragraph of section 10 of chapter 53 of the General Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, any incumbent town meeting member, **excluding members at large and elected town meeting members, aforesaid, in Section 3,** may, ~~without collecting voter signatures or filing nomination papers,~~ become a candidate for reelection as a town meeting member ~~for the same precinct in which the incumbent member currently serves or for reelection as a town meeting member at large~~ by giving written notice thereof to the town clerk at least 30 days before the election.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.”

The motion was carried, 7 in favor, 1 abstained.

Mr. Bon Tempo pointed out the need to amend the language to the motion for Article 3 and to amend the language to the motion for Article 7.

Dr. Heller moved to amend the motion for Article 3 of the Warrant for Special Town Meeting as indicated below with deletions struck through in red font and additions in green font.

MOTION FOR ARTICLE 3: Move that the Town vote to add a new standing vote of the Milford Town Meeting by inserting, in the next available numerical order, a standing vote as follows:

“The proceedings of Town Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the most recent edition of *Town Meeting Time* by Johnson, Trustman, and Wadsworth, except as modified by Massachusetts General Laws and the **Legislative Acts**, General By-laws, **and** Standing Votes of **the** Town Meeting ~~and traditions in~~ of Milford.”

The motion was carried, 8 in favor, 0 opposed.

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Dr. Heller moved to amend the motion for Article 7 by substituting the word “changes” for the word “differences.”

MOTION FOR ARTICLE 7: Move that the Town vote to add a new standing vote of the Milford Town Meeting by inserting, in the next available numerical order, a standing vote as follows:

“The Moderator, at his discretion, may entertain a motion to dispense with or waive the reading of a main motion or report. If said motion is entertained, the Moderator shall ascertain from the sponsor whether the main motion or report is exactly as it appears in the Warrant or other printed material made available to the voters prior to the opening of that Town Meeting session.

If the main motion or report is not the same, then the sponsor shall, for the record, note or indicate any ~~differences~~ changes.

This motion requires a second and a majority vote; may be debated and reconsidered, but not amended; and may interrupt the speaker.”

The motion was carried, 8 in favor, 0 opposed.

3. Mr. Morrison gave the Committee the following update on the Pre-Town Meeting Forum.

The date of the Forum has been changed to October 9th.

Sub-committee #7 met with Atty. Michael J. Noferi, Town Moderator, to review the format for the Pre-Town Meeting Forum. Atty. Noferi raised the issue of televising the Forum through Milford TV.net. There was general consensus that broadcasting the Forum would reduce attendance. However, while the Sub-committee would not initiate an invitation, it would comply if MilfordTV.net were to make a formal request to broadcast.

Richard Villani, Town Administrator, will be contacted to post a message regarding the Forum on the sign outside the former Middle School East. Additionally, Chief Thomas O’Loughlin will be contacted regarding the use of the Police Department’s portable electronic sign for the same message.

A tentative format for the Forum was established, but not finalized.

- Introduction by Mr. Morrison
- Atty. Noferi to address ground rules – same as Water Co. forums
- Sponsors of articles to give description and summary of article
- Question and answer segment by audience members
- 90-minute time limit

A notice regarding the Pre-Town Meeting Forum, developed by Chairman DeLuzio, was sent to Town Meeting members by Amy Hennessy Neves, Town Clerk, on September 21st.

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Press releases were delivered to the Milford Daily News, the Milford Town Crier, Milford TV.net, MyFM radio station and the Milford Patch.

The Sub-committee will meet on October 4th to select and prioritize the articles based upon the submissions made by Town Meeting members. Mr. Villani will be given the list to contact the sponsors.

In a separate conversation, Mr. Villani stated that the Upper Hall would be set for the Town Meeting and that he would provide microphones and stands. Andrew Diorio, Information Technology Manager, would be available to ensure that the sound system will be in working order.

4. Mr. Visconti declined an invitation to speak again.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Michelangelo Bon Tempo
Clerk

Approved
10/29/2018