

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

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

Meeting Minutes

A Pre-Town Meeting Forum sponsored by the Town Meeting Study and Improvement Committee was held on Tuesday, October 22, 2019, in the Upper Hall of the Town Hall. The forum began at 7:00 p.m.

Though no attendance was taken, nine members of the Committee were present: Renaldo A. DeLuzio (Chairman), Michelangelo Bon Tempo (Clerk), Charles M. Clark, Sr., Susan Marie Hastert, Richard A. Heller, Bartholomew R. Lawless (Vice-chairman), Kathryn L. Mastroianni, Jose M. Morais and Steven J. Trettel. Three Participating Applicants to the Committee were present Christine Crean, B. Gregory Johnson and Brian W. Long. Forty-two members of the public were present.

A. Chairman DeLuzio welcomed all to the Forum and introduced the other officers of the Committee, Mr. Lawless (Vice-chairman) and Mr. Bon Tempo (Clerk), as well as Ms. Hastert and Mr. Clark who would provide, if needed, assistance with the microphones in the aisles. He inquired if anyone needed a hearing-assist devise or a copy of the agenda, round rules or pink questionnaire.

Chairman DeLuzio noted a change to the order of articles for consideration as there was some technical difficulties with the electronic voting demonstration (Agenda Item 1), as well as an additional change. The order is as follows: Agenda Item 7 (Article 4) followed by agenda items 2, 3, 4, etc. until the issue with agenda item 1 (Article 29) is resolved.

Chairman DeLuzio explained that the primary purpose of the Forum is to be able to ask questions which is not so easy to do at Town Meeting. With respect to the ground rules, he emphasized not advocating for or against the article, and that all questions should be directed to the presenter of the article.

Chairman DeLuzio extended the Committee's appreciation to Richard A. Villani, Esq., Town Administrator, and the various Department Personnel for their cooperation and attendance in support of the Forum.

Chairman DeLuzio reminded those in attendance to fill out and return the pink questionnaire at the end of the evening.

Chairman DeLuzio turned the proceedings over to Michael J. Noferi, Esq., Town Moderator.

B. Atty. Noferi, acting as Chair, requested that a sponsor/presenter limit their comments as to the purpose and content of an article to three minutes or less; reiterated the prohibition on

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advocating for or against an article; and then called upon the presenter of the first agenda item, Article 7, to come forward.

C. The following Articles from the Special Town Meeting Warrant were addressed.

7. Article 4, on amending Section 4.1 Definitions of the Zoning Bylaw relating to Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers and sponsored by Sira Naturals, Inc. was presented by John V. Fernandes, Esq.

A question was asked by Lauren M. Wilton (Precinct 5).

2. Article 12, on the rezoning of 426 and 434 East Main Street from Rural Residential C [RC] to Business Park [BP] and sponsored by Joseph Shay, Trustee of SFH Realty Trust was presented by Joseph M. Antonellis, Esq.

Questions were asked by the following individuals: George S. Swymer, Sr. (Precinct 7), Thomas Earl Russ (Precinct 2), Bryan Cole (Precinct 8), Christine Crean (Precinct 6), Charles E. Abrahamson, Jr. (Precinct 4), and Michael P. Visconti, Jr. (Precinct 8).

3. Article 15, on special legislation in relation to the hiring of a Chief of Police and sponsored Michelangelo Bon Tempo, et al., was presented by Mr. Bon Tempo.

A question was asked by Mr. Swymer (Precinct 7).

4. Article 11, on the transfer of 17 Town-owned parcels of land to the Conservation Commission and sponsored by the Conservation Commission, was presented by Noel G. Bon Tempo, member of that Commission.

Questions were asked by the following individuals: Mr. Visconti (Precinct 8), Mr. Abrahamson (Precinct 4) and Steven J. Trettel (Precinct 3).

5. Article 9, on upgrading the Audio/Visual System in Upper Town Hall and sponsored by the Board of Selectmen, was presented by Richard A. Villani, Esq., Town Administrator.

Questions were asked by the following individuals: Mrs. Crean (Precinct 6) and Mr. Visconti (Precinct 8).

1. Article 29, on a one-time, trial use of electronic voting equipment at the 2020 Annual Town Meeting and sponsored by Town Meeting Study and Improvement Committee, was presented by Steven J. Trettel, member of that Committee. Mark A. Fite, President and CEO of Option Technologies International, conducted a demonstration of the capabilities of the proposed system, and responded to questions, except were indicated.

Questions were asked by the following individuals: Brian W. Long (Precinct 5), Mr. Visconti (Precinct 8), Mr. Swymer (Precinct 7), Mr. Trettel (Precinct 3), John J. Crean, Jr. (Precinct 6),

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Richard A. Morrison (Precinct 1) – answered by Mr. Trettel, Kathryn L. Mastroianni (Precinct 3), Angelo A. Calagione (Precinct 6), Mrs. Crean (Precinct 6), Mr. Abrahamson (Precinct 4), Renaldo A. DeLuzio, (Precinct 7), and Mr. Russ (Precinct 2).

6. Article 33, on a sum of money to be spent under the jurisdiction of the Police Chief Selection Committee for general expenses and sponsored by the Board of Selectmen, was presented by Atty. Villani, Town Administrator.

No questions were asked.

8. Article 6, on dedicating funds received from Sira Naturals, Inc. under the Community Host Agreement to the Town Stabilization Fund and sponsored by the Board of Selectmen, was presented by Atty. Villani, Town Administrator.

Questions were asked by the following individuals: Mr. Cole (Precinct 8) and Ms. Mastroianni (Precinct 3).

Thomas Brown, Town Accountant, provided additional clarification on Mr. Cole's question.

9. Article 16, on issuing an invitation for bids for the sale of the former Purchase Street School and sponsored by the Board of Selectmen, was presented by Atty. Villani, Town Administrator.

A question was asked by Mr. Long (Precinct 5).

10. Article 7, on amending Section 5.1 of the Milford Personnel By-laws with respect to payment of salary and benefits for either full-time or part-time employees and sponsored by the Personnel Board, was presented by Harold S. Rhodes, Vice-chairman of that Board.

No questions were asked.

Atty. Noferi stated that time permitted the consideration of two additional articles.

11. Article 10, on amending the enabling legislation for the Personnel Board with respect to a member being a legal resident of the Town of Milford and sponsored by Michelangelo Bon Tempo, et al., was presented by Mr. Bon Tempo.

Questions were asked by the following individuals: Harold S. Rhodes (Precinct 2) and Mr. Swymer (Precinct 7).

12. Article 30, on amending Sections 5.8A, 5.8B and 5.8C of the Milford Personnel By-laws with respect to "Vacation Leave" for employees and sponsored by the Personnel Board was presented by Mr. Rhodes, Vice-chairman of that Board.

Questions were asked by the following individuals: Mr. Swymer (Precinct 7) and Andrew E. Johanson (Precinct 4).

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Maureen Giffin, Human Resources Director, responded to Mr. Swymer's question.

Atty. Noferi reminded the audience to fill out and return the pink questionnaire, and encouraged their attendance at the upcoming Special Town Meeting on Monday, October 28, 2019.

The forum concluded at 8:05 p.m.

Michelangelo Bon Tempo
Clerk

Approved
11-18-2019