



**Eliot Select Board Workshop**

**November, 3, 2016, 5:30 PM**

**MINUTES**

**Attending: Chairman Davis, Selectmen Fernald, Murphy and Pomerleau; Town Manager Dana Lee; Denny Lentz also attended**

1. Roll Call: The Chair called the workshop to order and declared a quorum.
2. Public Comment: The Chair asked if there was any public comment. There was none.
3. Review of Committee Self Assessments Committees' Mission:

The Town Manager was asked to start off the discussion. He first spoke about the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee and their recent discussion about preparing for the next Comp Plan and possibly de-commissioning their Committee as it stands, and possibly creating a new committee that would work to lay out the entire process (who, what, when, budget, etc.) for creating a meaningful, inclusive and well-understood Comprehensive Plan. The Board discussed and seemed to like the idea. Dana said that the Committee asked him to draft a mission statement for such a committee. The Select Board seemed to think that was a good starting point also, and asked the Town Manager to gather information / laws etc. about the Comp Plan process. The term "Comprehensive Plan Update Committee" was discussed.

Bob said that he had created a set of questions that could be applied to each committee and the main one was – what purpose can the committee serve that a) the town needs and b) will reduce the need to pay staff / consultants to do that work. The Board seemed to concur that such a standard made sense.

The next discussion focused on the Sewer Committee who seem to lack a meaningful mission since the hiring of Joel, Dana and engineering consultants. The Select Board discussed re-purposing or forming a new committee to replace the Sewer Committee which would be broader in scope, and may include such missions as 1) planning the next areas of town that will need sewer, how will it get paid for, reviewing storm water management plans and project, fee / assessment systems, water testing at outfalls and along the shore, testing wells, etc. The term "Environmental Infrastructure Committee" came up as a possibility.

The next discussion focused on the Harbor Commission. The Town Manager had advised the Select Board of some issues that he was concerned about with regard

40 to the structure and membership of the Harbor Commission. It was discussed that  
41 they were principally appointed to review and re-write the Ordinance to modern  
42 standards, but had moved into thinking they have the right to direct the activities  
43 of the Harbor Master even after being told more than once that they do not. They  
44 had also tried to insert language on two topics that was not consistent with two  
45 legal opinions. The changes they proposed appeared based in self-interest. Bob  
46 said he had watched several meetings and concurred fully. This led to a discussion  
47 of how unbiased they could be as an appeal authority. The Select Board discussed  
48 being the appeal authority or the Board of Appeals. Bob read some from the  
49 Manual for Harbor Masters about "disinterested" members being best to serve on  
50 Harbor Commissions. It was also discussed that often derogatory comments came  
51 from the committee about the Harbor Master and Town Manager.

52  
53 it was discussed that each of the above discussed committees should be called in  
54 to meet with the Select Board about their views on re-missioning and / or  
55 decommissioning.

56  
57 The Town Manager was asked to try and draft a new mission statement for the  
58 Sewer / Storm Water / Water Quality Committee, as well as the Comp Plan  
59 Update, as previously stated.

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61 4. Adjourn: A motion was made by Roland to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 pm. This was  
62 seconded by Jack and was so voted 4 – 0.

Approved 12/8/16  
