

CHARTER AND BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

October 2, 2009

The charter and bylaw review committee (CBRC) held a meeting on October 2, 2009 at 4 p.m. in the Dlott meeting room, town hall. The meeting was duly posted by Carol Gloff, chair. Ms Gloff called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM.

Members present: Barbara Chinetti, Jay Ball (arrived 4:12), Carol Gloff, Karen Adelman Foster (left 4:44) and Richard Sidney

Members absent: Robert Healey, Tony Lista

Others present: None

DISCUSSION OF MINUTES

Draft minutes for Aug 21, 2009 were distributed.

No discussion of minutes.

HANDOUTS

No attachments.

DISCUSSION

Ms Gloff reports that the hearings with the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee are proceeding very well. There are five more articles to present to the Finance Committee on Tuesday (Oct 6) and five or so for the Board of Selectmen.

Ms Gloff advised the CBRC that based on a question from a Finance Committee member; she researched the definition of a Kennel. A kennel is defined in Natick Zoning By-laws as someone who is breeding dogs or anyone who has four or more dogs on a single property, and that the Kennel fees set in the By-law article 50 match this definition.

Ms Gloff reported that there were questions from the Board of Selectmen about the change from Morse's Pond to all ponds: "Does this mean that no gas powered machines to cut ice for ice fishing and no snowmobiles are allowed?"

Mr Ball reported that Matt Gardner, the Chair of the Conservation Commission, reports that this by-law predates the Conservation Commission's institutional memory. The suggestion is that this was passed as a courtesy to Wellesley, as they have a virtually identical by-law on their books. Conservation Commission had no opinion regarding this change. Ms Gloff reports that this by-law was passed by Spring 1969 Annual Town Meeting, as Article 78 of the warrant, sponsored by the Conservation Commission.

REVIEW OF WARRANT ARTICLES

TM Article	Article	Description of Changes	Motions
45	(B) 51	§ 1.a. reads, in part: "... such as a solid state unit which plugs directly into a power line, ...". Finance Committee proposed to change this to read "... such as a solid state unit which plugs directly into a power source, ...".	JB: Move to adopt this change. BC Seconds. Passed 5-0-0.
		§ 3.a. Finance Committee noted that after the modifications to §3.b., both subsections a and b are very similar. Finance Committee proposed changing §3.a. to "Deleted".	RS: Move to adopt this change. JB Seconds. Passed 5-0-0.
		Finance Committee accepted the CBRC proposed changes to §10 b. and c.; which were left out of the warrant article.	
27	(C) 5	§ 5-4. The first bullet reads, in part: "...overview of the proposed budget." Finance Committee proposed to change this to read "...overview of the preliminary budget.", at the request of the Town Administrator.	JB: Move to adopt this change. RS Seconds. Passed 5-0-0.
26	(C) 4	Finance Committee noted a mis-spelling in the version of the	KAF: Move to adopt this

TM Article	Article	Description of Changes	Motions
		document they were reviewing: In § 4-2 17), the word “software” was mis-spelled as “sortware”. The spelling is correct in the warrant article. Finance Committee moved to correct this spelling in the presentation.	change. JB Seconds. Passed 5-0-0.
31	(B) 10	In § 3, Finance Committee noted that there were more than one reserve fund in the town, not all under the control of the Finance Committee. Finance Committee proposed changing “reserve fund” at the end of the section to “General Fund Reserve Fund”. In the table at the end: “Appointments made by the Board of Selectmen”, Finance Committee noted that a Citation was missing for the South Middlesex Regional Vocational School. Finance Committee proposed adding the citation “(A) s.1”.	RS: Move to adopt this change. KAF Seconds. Passed 5-0-0.
33	(B) 20	Finance Committee proposed removing the terms “(C) – Charter” and “c. – chapter” from the Key to the table.	RS: Move to adopt this change. JB Seconds. Passed 5-0-0.
44	(B) 50	§22: Finance Committee noted that some handicapped persons have placards, not license plates. Finance Committee proposed adding the words “or placard” after the words “distinctive number plates” in §22.1 and after the words “distinguishing license plate” in §22-2.	RS: Move to adopt this change. BC Seconds. Passed 4-0-0.
57	(B) 92	Finance Committee proposed increased fines for “littering, illegal dumping”: First, second and third offenses: \$100; Fourth offense: \$300.	JB: Move to adopt this change. BC Seconds. Passed 4-0-0.
56	(B) 91	Concern has been expressed by at least one Collective Bargaining Unit about the repeal of By-law 91. The Town Administrator is requesting referral.	JB: Move that the CBRC request Referral of the subject matter of TM Article 56 to the CBRC. BC Seconds. Passed 4-0-0.

CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment was moved by Mr. Sidney, seconded by Mr. Ball, and voted unanimously. Ms. Gloff adjourned the meeting at 5:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Richard Sidney, CBRC member

Minutes approved on December 14, 2009 by a vote of 3-0-1.