

Minutes of the TGS&A meeting - February 7, 2012

Ten of thirteen members of the committee were present at this meeting.

Present were: Chairman Sarah Seelye, Vice Chair Spencer McIlmurray, Patti Baumgardner, John Boulton, Michael Burke, Eugene Coyle, Frank Huck, Frank Kemp, Cecilia Mundt, and Lloyd Plehaty.

Absent were: Deepika Saksena, Seth Morton and Sam Schoonmaker.

Members of the public included: Helen Miller (RTM, District 2), Katie Kieth, Linda Goodyear and several observers interested in the issues being brought forward by Choose To Reuse in Darien (other names are not available, as no sign-in sheet was in use).

The meeting was called to order at 7:34pm by Chairman Seelye.

Chairman Seelye reviewed the agenda for the meeting, according to the following topics:

Approve minutes

The minutes of the January 20, 2012 meeting were reviewed and approved (8 for, 1 abstain, due to absence from the meeting).

Review status of pending items

The Chairman outlined the status of the creation of a Flood and Erosion Control Board (FECB) separate from the EPC. As a result of suggestions from this committee and the rules committee, it has been recommended that the Board of Selectmen create an Advisory Commission for this purpose, thereby eliminating possible conflict of interest issues for the EPC

The Chairman has met with Jayme Stevenson and Craig Flaherty to clarify the RTM's position on this matter, and to discuss the need for a change to Section 22026 of the Ordinances that will expedite this course of action.

Proposed Plastic Bag Ordinance

A draft copy of the proposed ordinance was distributed for review and discussion. The Rules Committee has assigned Public Works (primary), Public Health and Safety (secondary), and TGS&A (secondary).

Chairman Seelye noted that this discussion would be consistent with the mission of the TGS&A committee in preparing ordinances for consideration by the RTM, and that there would be subsequent review-sessions on specific matters that it covers.

The committee recommended keeping only the first sentence of the "Purpose" paragraph, and considered other changes to the wording that would clarify the intent of the ordinance, and make it more precise. Definitions were reviewed, with the purpose of achieving the purpose of the ordinance.

Copies of an email from Greg Palmer, representing Palmers Grocery, were reviewed, in regard to defining recyclable paper bags that would be permitted.

The Chairman noted that although any ordinance being considered by the RTM may be amended on the floor of the RTM, it was the duty of this committee to resolve technical and procedural matters prior to the RTM meeting.

It was noted that the definition of the specific fine for violation of the ordinance would be entered into Appendix D – Table of Ordinance Fines, and that the board of selectmen may amend said fines as part of the annual budget.

The Chairman indicated that she would be following this matter with the other two RTM committees and keep the committee advised of their progress.

Matters of concern to Mr. Plehaty

Mr. Plehaty recommended that this committee take action to ensure that final versions of proposed ordinances be presented by one committee, and that any changes be coordinated prior to the presentation to the RTM

Adjournment and next meeting

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for 7:30pm, Tuesday March 6, 2012 in room 213, Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah C. Seelye
Chairman