Northfield Town Hall Location

TOWN GOVERNANCE STUDY COMMITTEE March 20, 2019 Date

7:00 PM Time

Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Brian Brault, Barbara "Bee" Jacque (Clerk), Robert MacEwen, Tammy Pelletier

(Chair), Bernie Porada, Jeremy Underwood

Others Present: None

Meeting called to order by Pelletier at 7:07 PM

1. Public Comment: none

2a. On a motion by Brault, seconded by Porada, voted to approve February 27 minutes.

2b. On a motion by Brault, seconded by Porada, voted to approve March 13 minutes.

3. Old Business:

 Porada reviewed follow-up (text —> warrant process) with Andrea Llamas, Town Administrator re: change Selectboard from 3 to 5 members. Jacque shared email printout (outlines wording used by Dalton & questions on warrant process) sent to Llamas (cc: Porada). Porada is following up with Llamas on Monday, March 25, the deadline for submitting warrant article for Town Meeting.

4. New Business:

- Communication with community:
 - MacEwen and Underwood will ask about Selectboard size change 3—>5 at Candidates Forum.
 - Brault will present at State of Our Town event. Jacque will hand out 2-page summary from March 13th Public Session.
- Process & Next Steps for wrap-up: Jacque to follow up with Rep. Marks' aide re: legislative calendar and Sam Richardson re: 2013 committee's process leading up to Town Meeting.
- Meeting time/schedule:
 - Thursday, April 11@ 7 PM Wrap up Committee business & Review Final Report
- 6. On a motion by Underwood, seconded by Brault, voted to adjourn @ 8:15 PM.

Recorded by Barbara L. Jacque, Clerk

From: B Jacque

Subject: NFLD TGSC Town Meeting warrant(s) next steps

Date: March 14, 2019 at 5:41:28 PM EDT

To: Andrea Llamas Cc: Bernhard Porada

Hello Andrea -

The Town Governance Study Committee took your advice to heart and considered the why, the rationale, for increasing the size of the Selectboard from 3-5 members. We held a Public Session last night and will continue to communicate with the citizens of Northfield prior to the Town Meeting. Our summary handout from last night is attached.

Per Bernie's heads up, also attached is the Act passed on behalf of the Town of Dalton when they increased their Selectboard membership. We are <u>assuming similar wording will work for Northfield at the Town Meeting and if approved</u>, with the state legislature.

The Selectboard shall consist of 5 members elected by the voters of the town. At the next annual election following the effective date of this act, there shall be 3 Selectboard members elected, two for a 3-year term and one for a 2-year term. At each annual election thereafter, there shall be elected one or two Selectboard members each for a 3-year term, so as to maintain a 5-member board. The Selectboard shall annually elect a chairperson from among its members. Selectboard members in office on the effective date of this act shall serve until the terms for which they have been elected have expired.

In looking at the wording of Northfield's prior Town Warrants, e.g., the creation of the Town Administrator in December 2013 — see https://www.northfieldma.gov/sites/northfieldma/files/uploads/special town meeting warrant december 9 2013.pdf — do we need to use wording like this? Are we adding or changing a bylaw of the Town?

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Mass. General Law Ch. 43B Sec.

13, to enact a new General By-Law to read as follows

Presuming the warrant is submitted by the Selectboard, should we be meeting with and/or presenting to them prior to the Town Meeting? And additionally, does a warrant need to be submitted to accept the Final Report of the Committee?

We want to make sure we are following the proper steps in a timely manner so Bernie Porada will be our point person in following up with you.

Thanks so much for your assistance!

Bee Jacque Clerk