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[CE SBAC] 2/15 Meeting Feedback

1 message

Chris Gorski <cbgorski@gmail.com>

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Hello,

First, Thank you all for your time to work on this project and support Cape Elizabeth.

I am disappointed in how the meeting was conducted last night. Many members were professional, respectful, and took time to consider the options, explain their thoughts, and hear their colleagues speak. Unfortunately, a few were dismissive, inattentive, and inconsiderate of the agenda set in front of them and more so their peers.

It was very apparent that some members of the committee are too hurried and eager to speak and talk over their colleagues than hear what their unique perspective has to offer. This committee was pulled together to give us a view from all sides and it is very obvious who is and isn't listening.

Texting about the meeting and reading in comments is discounting the opinion and thoughts of the rest of the public who have to wait for public comment time. Worse yet, it felt as though these texts were more valuable than the feedback collected over the past two weeks.

On the subject of being dismissive - our tax dollars are funding some very capable and professional firms. I and many of my neighbors want to hear more from them and see more of their guidance. We have all seen professionally provided data be questioned, and I am not saying we should not see due diligence through, but when the data is provided and vetted, but goes against someone's preconceived notion or bias, it shouldn't be tossed to the side.

I'm asking everyone to humble themselves, step back and listen.

It is a shame that this conduct occurred during a major meeting, revolving around taking community feedback, surveys, and professional input to focus on the next chapter for our community's schools.

Finally, the community wants a plan. They want predictability. That's what the feedback callously dismissed as 'not a survey' shows. We want to know the schools have funding coming in to be maintained and a plan that prepares the town for those costs. That the cost is manageable for everyone because it was proactively laid out and not reactive like how we find ourselves today.

Set that course, and then start that first step, that first tax increase that the majority of the town surveyed supports. I bet even more will support it when it has a long term plan attached, so they know it won't need to go up again in 5 years.

Again, I am appreciative and thankful for the time each of you has given to this effort. My criticism is only at the behavior and not the people. Thank you.

Thanks,

Chris Gorski
28 Farm Hill Rd

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