

**Town of Cape Elizabeth
Town Council Workshop Meeting Notes
Monday-March 17, 2014
Following 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting
Cape Elizabeth Town Hall**

Following the Finance Committee meeting which begins at 7:00 p. m. , the Cape Elizabeth Town Council will have a brief workshop meeting to discuss the role of town council members vis a vis local quasi-judicial boards.

The workshop meeting began at 9:15 p.m. Present were all council members except Jamie Wagner. The town manager was also present.

The town council discussed whether or not a council member should speak before the Zoning Board of Appeals representing another party on an appeal of a decision made by the code enforcement officer. No concern was expressed about anyone representing themselves or their immediate family.

A concern expressed was that it is awkward for a councilor to represent someone before a quasi judicial board when they are involved in the appointment process for that board. Also, to what extent should councilors advocate against an administrative decision of a department head before a quasi judicial board in lieu of addressing the issue as a policy matter at a town council meeting.

The consensus was that if a councilor appears as a representative of another party before the zoning board, they should not concurrently be involved in decisions regarding appointments to the board. The council also asked the town manager to research how other communities have dealt with similar circumstances.

The meeting ended at 10:05 p.m.

Mike McGovern
Note taker