



## Cape Elizabeth Town Council Workshop

Jessica L. Sullivan, Chairman

Caitlin R. Jordan

Molly MacAuslan

Katharine N. Ray

David S. Sherman, Jr.

Jamie Wagner

James T. Walsh

### Meeting Notes

Tuesday, November 18, 2014 - 7:00 p.m.

Cape Elizabeth Town Hall

Meeting Opening by the Town Council Chairman Jessica Sullivan

All were present except outgoing Councilor Sherman. Councilor-elect Grennon was present.

**1. Executive Session with John Wall, Municipal Attorney on Pending legal matter and more particularly the action brought against the town by Verizon re: former water tower at Avon Road.**

**It was moved By Kathy Ray and seconded by Jim Walsh** to enter into executive session pursuant to 1 MRSA Sec 401 6E to discuss pending litigation with John Wall from Monaghan Leahy. **Voted 6-0**

The council entered executive session at 7:05 p.m. Also present during the executive session were Councilor-elect Grennon, the town manager and the code enforcement officer.

**It was moved By Kathy Ray and seconded by Jim Walsh** to return to public session at 7:28 p.m. No action was taken. John Wall and codes officer Ben McDougal departed the meeting.

### **2. Discussion of Town Council goals for 2015.**

Chairman Sullivan announced that due to other new commitments, she had decided that she did not wish to be nominated by the council caucus to be finance committee chair for next year. The consensus of the caucus was to have Jim Walsh nominated at the December 8, 2014 council meeting.

Chair-designate Kathy Ray then led the council through a discussion of potential goals for 2015. Note that these are not the actual goals. These are notes that will lead to goals.

- J. Sullivan suggested the town take a long range look at the recycling center. She has concerns with traffic safety and aging equipment.
- M. MacAuslan asked for the council to revisit longer term uses of the former Spurwink School after its temporary use as a library in 2015.
- J. Wagner said the council needs to deal with poor cell phone coverage in Cape Elizabeth.
- P. Grennon praised the Shore Road pathway and said we should look at more opportunities for grants to improve pedestrian pathways on roadsides.
- J. Walsh said the school board and council should jointly review the original mission for community services and how it has evolved. What are the future needs of the town that should be addressed with community services especially with an aging population.
- C. Jordan said we should continue to look at access issues at Crescent Beach State park and Kettle Cove and look at the harbors report from the 1980s.
- M. MacAuslan encouraged a look at the appointments process. How should we engage the public on local issues?

- K. Ray is concerned with the bank and curve of the road at the Spurwink Church. We should review options.
- J. Wagner is concerned with the town center intersection. Conditions have gotten worse with the opening of the new Cumberland Farms.
- P Grennon and J. Wagner commented on the speed limit in the town center as unfinished business arising from the town center planning committee.
- J. Walsh encouraged a comprehensive review of all ordinances. We need to see that they are citizen friendly.
- C. Jordan asked that the council look into a volunteer mediation program for local disputes.
- M. MacAuslan said the council or trustees should look at the remaining recommendations of the library planning committee. She cited options to work more closely with community services and other programs.
- J. Wagner said we need to look at the future of the Goddard Mansion.
- J. Walsh would like the council to prioritize the goals of the seniors' advisory committee. He noted the growing demographic of older citizens.
- C. Jordan said citizen volunteers should not have to take the official notes at town boards and committees. Note taking should be enhanced and standardized. They should be more descriptive and not just have actions voted upon.
- J. Walsh said we should continue to review additional opportunities for citizen engagement.
- M. MacAuslan should we should provide appropriate services and should minimize tax increases.
- J. Wagner encouraged more interaction with ecomaine on food composting.
- C. Jordan said there should be more outreach to citizens especially with the annual goal setting process.
- J. Walsh noted that we should continue to enhance the working relationship and protocols among the manager and the council.
- M. MacAuslan encouraged an action plan for orientation of boards and commissions.
- All agreed that we should work towards completing a successful library project

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Mike McGovern

Note taker

## Adjournment