

TOWN OF TIVERTON
The Financial Town Meeting (FTM) Changes Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes for Monday, 4 October 2010
Tiverton Town Hall 343 Highland Road

The meeting commenced at 7:30PM in Tiverton Town Hall.

Members present included Jeff Caron (Co Chair), Brian Medeiros (Co Chair), Jeff Sroczynski, Bob Gaw, Laura Epke, and Deb Pallasch.

1. Introductions.

Committee members introduced themselves.

2. Distribution of Town Council Resolution.

The Town Council Resolution was distributed and briefly discussed.

3. Election of Secretary.

Since there was no volunteer for the position the Committee unanimously consented to rotate the position of Secretary jointly among committee membership.

4. Review of and discussion of proposals submitted to 21 July 2010 public hearing.

Copies of proposals published for public hearing on 6 July 2010 were distributed and discussed.

MEP=Medeiros Epke Pallasch

JEC = Caron

Brian distributed and the Committee reviewed a handout (copy attached).

5. Identification of key components for further discussion at a later date.

It was decided that the Town Solicitor be invited to a meeting to provide guidance and legal opinions for accumulated topics. Two such topics were identified:

a. "Vote for One" ballot structure.

b. "Not to Exceed" tax levy vote structure.

It was generally agreed that the "Vote for One" approach offers many advantages and it seemed to be the will of the Committee to use the approach if possible. It was also agreed by the Committee to seek this determination ASAP by email request to the solicitor. Brian and Jeff agreed to prepare and send a request into the Solicitor.

Jeff C led a discussion about the independent municipal and school voting in the JEC proposal. It was generally agreed to utilize the "combined" approach offered in the MEP proposal because it was less complex.

Placement of elector initiated resolutions (no levy impact) by petition onto the ballot was deemed desirable.

The discussion of which government body (ies) place amounts on the ballot was also discussed at length. There was general agreement about having this body be the Town Council, although some reservations were expressed by Jeff C regarding a change to the current balance of power.

Discussion ensued about going before the incoming Town Council around Thanksgiving to share the approach to date and solicit feedback from the Town Council and public.

It was decided that the Committee would meet again ASAP after the election.

The meeting adjourned at about 9:45PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Caron