

Town of Hanover
Advisory Committee
550 Hanover Street
Hanover, MA 02339

Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2014 7:00pm

Opening:

John O'Leary called the meeting to order at 7:00p.m.

Committee Attendees:

John O'Leary, Helen Graves, Donald White, Angela Blanchard, Jim Von Arsdale, Jerry O'Hearn, Wayne Moores, Nicole Duhamel, Chris Martin

Absent:

None

Meeting Minutes:

Helen Graves voted to approve the minutes from March 11, 2014 as amended Chris Martin seconded and it was voted unanimously.

Meeting with Town Clerk:

The Town Clerk of Hanover Cathy Harder-Bernier met with the Advisory Committee. She presented two power point presentations to the Committee highlighting her [accomplishments](#) while in office thus far as well as the benefits of an elected Town Clerk [versus](#) the benefits of an appointed Town Clerk.

Cathy presented data to the Advisory Committee to support her Town Warrant Article requesting a salary increase as the Town Clerk of Hanover to \$67,740/year. The Committee was presented with a list of the surrounding town clerks salaries.

Cathy presented information to the Committee regarding the two additional articles she is sponsoring on the Town Warrant.

Warrant Article 1 for May 2014 Annual Town Meeting consideration:

"To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 53, Section 9A which states,

"In any...town which accepts this section...in a town by vote of the town meeting, the following provisions shall apply with respect to nomination papers: -

The final date for obtaining blank nomination papers for nomination to...town office shall be forty-eight week day hours prior to the hour on which nomination papers are required to be submitted to the registrars of voters for certification.

Each candidate shall file with the...town clerk, prior to obtaining blank nomination papers, a statement containing his name and address, and the...town office for which he intends to be a candidate.

No candidate for city or town office shall receive more blank nomination papers than will contain the number of signatures required to place his name in nomination, multiplied by five.”

“To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 41, Section 110A which states,

“Any public office in any...town may remain closed on any and all Saturdays as may be determined from time to time...in a town, by vote of the town at a special or regular town meeting, and the provisions of section nine of chapter four shall apply in the case of such closing of any such office on any Saturday to the same extent as if such Saturday were a legal holiday.”

Meeting with PEG:

The Committee met with Les Molyneaux: Co-Chair of PEG, Brian Dirkin: CO-Chair of PEG, as well as the Colleen Smith: PEG Station Manager.

The Committee asked the members of PEG to speak about the request they have in the Town Warrant for a separate Space for the PEG studio. Brian Dirkin responded informing the Committee that although the High School space is a great space the Town members do not have unlimited access to it. Due to its location in the High School the public cannot access the station during school hours.

The PEG members assured the Advisory Committee that the High School station will remain fully equipped and maintained by PEG. The new space will just allow them to better serve the public.

Brian Dirkin gave the Committee some background on PEG funding. He explained the process of COMCAST/Verizon billing he clarified that the percentage of money those bills generate are to fund PEG local access cable TV only.

The Advisory Committee asked the PEG Board for some clarification on the lease they are proposing for this space. Brian Dirkin responded explain the lease would be a 10 year lease averaging about \$30,000/year. The Committee discussed that they would prefer a shorter term lease in the event that another space opens up within a Town owned space. The PEG members were open to having a lease that was renewable on a short term basis to allow them to relocate to a Town owned property if the opportunity arises.

Tony Marino met with the Committee briefly at 8:40p.m. He let them know that he was looking into the questions they had posed to him regarding the generator for the Senior Center. He is working on getting a quote for the total cost of a brand new generator to see how it compares to the cost of retro-fitting the one that was donated to the town.

The Committee discussed the presentation given by the Town Clerk before making a motion on the articles sponsored by her on the Town Warrant.

ARTICLE: Shall the Town vote to have its elected Town Clerk become an appointed Town Clerk, or take any action relative thereto.

** Jim VanArsdale made a negative motion to deny this article Don White seconded and it was voted unanimously.*

ARTICLE. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 41, Section 110A which states, "Any public office in any town may remain closed on any and all Saturdays as may be determined from time to time in a town, by vote of the town at a special or regular town meeting, and the provisions of section nine of chapter four shall apply in the case of such closing of any such office on any Saturday to the same extent as if such Saturday were a legal holiday", or take any other action relative thereto.

** Helen Graves made the motion to accept this article Chris Martin seconded and it was voted unanimously*

ARTICLE. To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 53, Section 9A which states, "In any town which accepts this section in a town by vote of the town meeting, the following provisions shall apply with respect to nomination papers: The final date for obtaining blank nomination papers for nomination to town office shall be forty-eight week day hours prior to the hour on which nomination papers are required to be submitted to the registrars of voters for certification. Each candidate shall file with the Town Clerk, prior to obtaining blank nomination papers, a statement containing his name and address, and the town office for which he intends to be a candidate. No candidate for city or town office shall receive more blank nomination papers than will contain the number of signatures required to place his name in nomination, multiplied by five", or take any other action relative thereto.

** Don White made a negative motion to deny this article Jerry O'Hearn seconded and it was voted unanimously.*

Adjournment:

Nicole Duhamel made a motion to adjourn at 10:15p.m. Helen Graves seconded and it was voted unanimously.