

Structural Change Implementation Committee
Minutes
March 19, 2024
Remote Meeting via Zoom

Members present: Tim Bucciarelli, John Kolterman, Paul Rickter
Members absent: Larry Link
Other attendees:

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TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: April 22, 2024
TIME: 3:28 PM

Meeting was called to order at 7:08pm.

Minutes Approval

The following sets of minutes from prior meetings were approved:

- April 25, 2023 - moved by Mr. Bucciarelli & approved with Mr. Kolterman abstaining
- September 5, 2023 - moved by Mr. Kolterman & approved
- October 3, 2023 - moved by Mr. Bucciarelli & approved with Mr. Kolterman abstaining
- November 7, 2023 - moved by Mr. Bucciarelli & approved
- December 5, 2023 - moved by Mr. Bucciarelli & approved with Mr. Kolterman abstaining
- February 6, 2023 - Moved by Mr. Kolterman & approved with Mr. Bucciarelli abstaining

Discussion on reporting to the Select Board

Mr. Rickter reported that the Select Board is interested in hearing about what is happening on SCIC in April. A significant piece will be an update on the status of priority ideas:

- Idea #23 - Increase revenue from Grants - maybe revise the question to consider department specific needs / opportunities - ACTION - revise the initiative and plan next steps
- Idea #33 - Civil Service - idea is complete.
- Idea #36 - review town owned property best use - who would we work with to gather information? Facilities? Recreation? Belmont Light? The substation? The old incinerator sight? - ACTION - focus on the old Light Department building next to the police station and provide report to the Select Board
- Idea #39 - Establish Budget Guidelines - essentially done - ACTION - Mr. Rickter will check with Anne Helgen on whether this idea can be considered complete.
- Idea #101 - PILOT - likely the select board will want to wait to see if the Assessors will be appointed. (April 2 ballot question)
- Idea #107 - Reevaluate Town Zoning with Master Plan - Town Planner should be on this - ACTION review this with the Select Board to confirm this is a priority.
- Idea #268 - Pension Liabilities/Retirement Board Savings - it appears a compromise was reached where the investment approach was adjusted - to include investments with the state PRIM and the retirement board finalize their membership.
- Idea #269 - Transfer Health Care Insurance to the GIC - in the hands of the town administrator - TBD - ask Select Board the status
- Idea #275 - Real Estate Transfer Fees - ACTION - Needs SCIC research and followup - Mr. Rickter will look into this. The Housing Trust has a fund funded by CPA and we

assume that the money generated by new transfer fees would be transferred to this fund for affordable housing in Belmont. Mr. Rickter to look into this further.

- Idea #378 - Supplemental Tax Assessment on New Construction - ACTION Needs SCIC research and followup. Mr. Rickter to talk with Jennifer Hewitt about how to move this forward. This is directly related to the Board of Assessors - depends on their priorities.
- Idea #391 - Allow hotels and B2Bs in bylaws - ACTION - Needs SCIC research and followup - ask Select Board status and prioritization
- Idea #413 - DLS Recommendations on Form of Government - wait until after the election and speak to the new Select Board Chair
- Discussion on the status of Belmont Country Club and its reduced property taxes. Town Meeting approved a home rule petition to eliminate the 25% property tax discount, but it's unclear if further action has occurred - ACTION - Mr. Rickter to review the Matrix from SCIG to see if there is anything on this topic if not we will generate a new item.

Next steps

The committee discussed the possibility that pending the April 2 election results, the SCIC may need a new chair. One possible idea would be to combine the SCIC with the Vision 21 Implementation Committee. Taylor Yates is the chair of that committee.

Public Comment

No members of the public were present, so there was no public comment.

Next Meeting

The committee agreed to schedule our next meeting for April 9 at 7pm.

Adjournment

The committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:24pm

Minutes submitted by Tim Bucciarelli

Ideas under consideration:

- [Idea #23 - Increase Revenues from Grants](#)
- [Idea #33 - Civil Service](#)
- [Idea #101 - "Payments In Lieu Of Taxes" for Non-Profits and Private Schools](#)
- [Idea #268 - Pension Liabilities/Retirement Board Savings](#)
- [Idea #269 - Transfer Health Care Insurance to the GIC](#)
- [Idea #36 - Review Town Owned/Used Property for Best Use](#)
- [Idea #39 - Establish Budget Guidelines](#)
- [Idea #107 - Reevaluate Town Zoning with Master Plan](#)
- [Idea #275 - Real Estate Transfer Fees](#)
- [Idea #378 - Supplemental Tax Assessment on New Construction](#)
- [Idea #391 - Allow Hotels and B&Bs in Bylaws](#)