

2018 JAN 22 AM 8:56

**Committee to Study the Number of Selectmen
Minutes of January 9, 2018
Town Hall Conference Room 1**

Present: Paul Rickter, Laurie Graham, Debra Deutsch, Dan Halston, Ralph Jones, Lynn Read, Judie Feins, Amy Trotsky, Doug John, Peter Whitmer, Andrew Plunkett, Maryann Scali
Absent: Michael Crowley

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Rickter at 7:05 p.m.
2. A Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the December 20th meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Formal review of status quo and for a larger number of Selectmen. After discussion it was decided that a few people would revise the arguments for three selectmen and the arguments for five selectmen according to tonight's discussion and present them again at next meeting.
4. A straw vote was taken. For three Board members, four voted affirmative; and for five Board members, eight affirmative.
5. Chairman expressed the need for more meetings to do our report. M. Scali will book Wed. Jan. 17 and Tuesday, January 30th as additional times to meet. The chair also expressed possible additional meetings as the report moves forward.
6. Amy Trotsky presented the "Arguments for remaining with 3 Selectmen." The group reviewed Amy's presentation and made suggestions. Paul will send any further suggestions to Amy from the committee.
7. Judie Feins will rewrite the pros for increasing the Board to five members, for the next meeting.
8. All members see merits on both sides. Town Administrator's role was not part of our 'charge.' We can make recommendations when we write our final report.
9. Ways to present our report were discussed such as using 'bullets' on both sides.
10. Lynn Read will summarize the 'Introduction to the Open Meeting Law' for the next meeting.
11. Judie Feins will draft the text to record all the steps taking on data gathering on Towns we have researched.
12. Dan Halston will revise the argument for increasing the Board to five members.
13. Paul Rickter will draft a section on future election options to increase the Board to five members. He will also draft do an Executive Summary when the report is more complete.
14. Role of BOS Policy Making and a strong Town administrator or Manager?
15. Ralph Jones will write sections on Basic Policy Making and a Strong TM. Laurie Graham will write section on eliminating salaries and benefits.
16. The committee discussed process after our report is presented to the BOS.
17. Adjourned at 9pm

Next meeting Wednesday, January 17th at 7pm-Town Hall Conference Room

Documents Used at the Meeting:

Draft Minutes of December 20, 2017

Draft Report

Draft Arguments for Maintaining Current Number of Selectmen

Draft Arguments for Increasing Size of Board of Selectmen

Draft Recommendation for maintaining the size of the Board

Draft Recommendation for increasing the size of the BOS

M. Scali Pro-tem