

Town Council-Elect
Tuesday, October 20, 2009

Town Councillors-Elect: Andrew Azer, William Alexopoulos, Richard Brewer, James Burgess, Ken Clifton, Paul Fernandes, Paul Meoni and Maureen Pasquantonio. Not present: Arthur Goldstein

Master Plan Implementation Committee: James Burgess, Michelle Tyler, Yvonne Watson and Richard McCarthy

A presentation about Zoning, Underground Utilities, Streetscape and the Master Plan was given to the Town Councillors by Michelle Tyler and Jim Burgess.

Ms. Pasquantonio asked that in the future, meetings scheduled by email should be responded to so that if someone doesn't get the email, a follow up phone call can be made.

November 2nd is set for Town Manager Finalist interviews. It was determined that the Councillors-Elect would meet to prepare for the interviews on Saturday, October 31 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. A discussion about having legal representation for the Town Council and separate legal representation for the Town Manager took place. Mr. Burgess recommended having Town Counsel Paul DeRensis review the questions, as Mr. Sullivan works directly with one of the candidates. Mr. Fernandes recommended having a package of questions delivered to Mr. DeRensis before the meeting on the 31st, and ask that he return them with his comments in time for the preparatory meeting. Each Councillor-Elect will submit his or her list of questions to Mr. Alexopoulos by 10:00 a.m. on October 26, and he will email them to Mr. DeRensis. The councillors discussed a system for a scoring sheet, and how each candidate should be rated at length.

Mr. Burgess made a motion that the ultimate vote of individual members of the Council will determine the Town Manager. The Charter says that a 2/3 vote of the Councillors is required. The Council will not be bound by a cumulative score of the rating sheets – they will be used for each councillor's reference in making their personal decision. Seconded by Mr. Azer. Voted 7-1 (Mr. Clifton).

It was determined that the Councillors-Elect would elect a President designee of the Council-Elect, Vice President designee of the Council-Elect,

and School Committee Representative from the Council-Elect, and once the Councillors are sworn in on January 4th, new votes will be taken.

Mr. Clifton stated that the position should be called an "interim coordinator" as opposed to changing the title. He stated that the council should determine whether there would be an orderly rotation of presidents, or it would be competitive between the members. The charter does not set out a rotation process.

Mr. Alexopoulos stated that he is interested in being the President of the Council. Mr. Fernandes and Mr. Burgess both expressed interest in the Vice Presidency. Andrew Azer expressed interest in the School Committee position.

Mr. Clifton asked if the designee will act on the School Committee on his own judgment or if he will echo the sentiment of the Council. The Councillors-Elect discussed the School Committee designee's role as a School Committee Member. It is the intent that the designee will act in the best interest of the Town and students. Mr. Clifton suggested that the Council is consulted on the more critical issues. Mr. Fernandes suggested recommending that the School Committee hold off on voting on critical issues until the Councillor designee has had the time to come back to the Town Council for their input.

Mr. Azer made a motion to designate Mr. Alexopoulos as the President of the Council-Elect. Seconded by Ms. Pasquantonio. Voted 8-0.

Mr. Fernandes received 3 votes for Council Vice President. Mr. Burgess received 5 votes for Council Vice President. Mr. Burgess was designated Vice President.

Andrew Azer received 8 votes for the designee of the School Committee.

Mr. Burgess asked that a letter be sent to the Town Clerk and Board of Selectmen notifying them of the appointments.

Mr. Alexopoulos asked the Councillors-Elect to give him any information necessary for business cards, and he will relay the information to Anne Barkhouse. Anne is also working with Virtual Town Hall on getting email addresses for each Councillor.

The meeting was adjourned.