



Fairhaven Board of Selectmen

April 10, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Present: Chairman Charles Murphy, Vice Chairman Robert Espindola, Clerk Geoffrey Haworth, Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch and Administrative Assistant Anne Kakley

Chairman Charles Murphy called the meeting to order in the Town Hall East Room at 6:04 p.m.

DOR REPORT

The Chairman opened the first of two DOR public hearings by explaining the process by which the Town received a Financial Review from the Department of Revenue at the end of 2012 based on interviews that the DOR had held with various elected officials and department heads.

The Chairman gave a broad overview of the recommendations, including a recommendation to convert the Town's government structure to a "pyramid" with the adoption of a Town Administrator position. Other recommended improvements to the Town government structure from DOR are: the elimination of the elected BPW, the elimination of the Personnel Board, and the formation of a Government Study Committee.

The Chairman opened the meeting to public comment. Public comment mainly focused on how the Town was going to petition the state to adopt the Town Administrator position. John Roderiques said that the public had not yet seen the proposed legislation that would create the position. The Board decided to place the draft version of the propose legislation online for the public to review. Mr. Espindola motioned. Mr. Haworth seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).

Discussion ensued regarding the Town Administrator position and how it would be filled. The Board also fielded questions from attendees regarding the adoption of a pyramid structure to Town government in Fairhaven.

Discussion also included comparisons between a Town Government Study Committee versus a Charter Commission. The public had questions about how a Town Government Study Committee would be appointed.

The meeting was recessed by the Chairman at 7:28 p.m. to allow Ms. Kakley to make copies of the proposed legislation and to place the proposed legislation online.

At 7:38 p.m., the Chairman called the meeting back to order and continued reviewing the recommendations of the DOR report.

The Chairman announced that there would be another DOR public hearing on Wednesday, April 24, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. in the Banquet Room.

At 8:29 p.m. Mr. Espindola motioned to adjourn. Mr. Haworth seconded. Vote was unanimous. (3-0).

Respectfully,

Anne Kakley

Selectmen's Secretary
Minutes approved 5/06/2013