



## Minutes of the Government Study Committee

Date: Tuesday, February 5, 2019

Place: Ipswich Town Manager's Conference Room.

Time: 7:00 PM

Attendees: Gary Champion, Craig Saline, David Standley, Scott Glosserman participated from CA by approved remote connection. Diane Young was absent with prior notice. (quorum of membership present)

Observers and Participants: None

Meeting commenced at 7:03 pm, with Craig Saline as chair and David Standley as secretary.

Citizen Queries: None

Introductions: None

Approval of Minutes: The draft minutes of the GSC meeting of January 15, 2019 were approved by unanimous vote on motion of Champion seconded by Standley.

Old Business: The Chair distributed a summary of the relevant portions of the meeting of the Select Board as it related to the question of Planning Board member selection. The issue before the GSC is the nature and content of its report or representation, if any, to the 2019 Annual Town Meeting. The Committee decided to request the Chair confirm with the Town Moderator if a floor vote to accept a "Report of the GSC" to recommend against reconsideration of the vote at the 2018 Special Town Meeting denying the Citizen's Petition regarding the election of Planning Board members would be the appropriate procedure.

The committee next took up amendments to Section 2 of the Town Charter intended to identify specific roles and responsibilities of the Select Board. Champion presented his summary of the Select Board discussion of this topic at its February 4 meeting. There was extended discussion of the need for, objectives of, and responsibilities for and procedures to employ to develop long-range physical and strategic plans. The committee decided that the Chair should proceed to develop a matrix displaying future needs and objectives for capital expenditures, the potential timing of events, and likely cost ranges for addressing each. One objective of this activity would

be to inform and educate voters about needs, time frames and costs. A standing committee/working group should be established consisting of the Town Manager and chairs of the Finance Committee, Select Board and School Committee. Its duty would be to prepare and periodically update an appropriate long-range plan for consideration by the Select Board. Several examples of activities of other municipalities to undertake this type of activity were cited. The question of the appropriate procedure to establish and charge such a committee was debated.

Champion was asked to develop the appropriate submittal form and a draft of the suggested implementation plan.

The Committee decided to propose three topics for consideration at the 2019 Annual Town Meeting-

- Amendment of Town Charter and Bylaws to replace gender-specific with gender-neutral wording throughout (Town Manager responsibility)
- Committee report on Planning Board member selection process
- Amendment of Section 2 of the Town Charter

New Business:

Assuming there will be no further need to address GSC recommendations for and at the ATM, the next task of the Committee is to address the roles of the Town Manager in Ipswich governance and the relationship of that office with other offices and officers of the town.

Next meeting: Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 7 PM, in Room C, Ipswich Town Hall.

Adjournment: There being no further business, on motion of Champion seconded by Glosserman the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 PM by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

David Standley, Secretary