

**Committee of Precinct Chairs
Minutes 10/19/2023
Great Hall, Plymouth Town Hall
Remote participation by Zoom meeting**

Present:

Precinct 1 Chris Pratt remote
Precinct 2 Matt Tavares Vice Chair
Precinct 3 Gerry Sirrico
Precinct 4 Clare Montanari
Precinct 5 Not Present
Precinct 5 Kevin Lynch 8:00 PM
Precinct 6 Not Present
Precinct 7 David Golden
Precinct 8 George McKay
Precinct 9 Kathryn Holmes Chair
Precinct 10 Alan Costello remote
Precinct 11 Frank O'Brien remote
Precinct 12 Pat Adelman Clerk
Precinct 13 Sue Wentworth remote
Precinct 14 Tom Begley
Precinct 15 Wrestling Brewster
Precinct 16 Pompey Delafield
Precinct 17 Joe Hutchinson
Precinct 18 Carmen Lifrieri

Materials Distributed:

Town of Plymouth Select Board Memorandum Article 17 Holtec Pilot
Holtec Payment in Lieu of Taxes Proposed Final Draft 10/19/2023
Motions for Fall Town Meeting, Change Order, Amend Article 5

Meeting called to order at 7 PM.

Pledge of allegiance was recited.

The chair, Kathryn Holmes asked to amend the agenda to allow the select Board representatives to explain the new agreement with Holtec and Article 17.

David Golden made the motion and Wrestling Brewster seconded.

All were in favor. Precinct 5 and 6 were not present.

Article 17- Holtec PILOT agreement:

Select Board member Kevin Canty gave an explanation of the new Holtec agreement, written in the draft proposal in the distributed materials..

It is mainly two parts: money and property.

Select Board member, John Mahoney, commented that this was 5 years in the making. The town had no leverage. Holtec made accommodations. Dickie Quintal, Select Board Chair, thanked all the members from the select board past and present, who contributed so much to this long endeavor. He also thanked the past and present legal staff and David Gould, Lynn Barrett and Ann Dunn. He wants Plymouth to be in charge of what happens to the property..

Questions and Answers:

Mr. Brewster: Are they paying the back taxes?

Mr. Canty: Yes. The tax appeal was dropped.

Mr. Brewster: Is GE manufacturing small nuclear reactors?

Mr. Canty: Yes. If Holtec should install a small reactor, the property value will be readjusted. It would involve a public process and the NRC would regulate the reactor.

Mr. LiFrieri: Was it said for how long the license would be for new modular reactors?

Mr. Canty: No. There would be a public process and the NRC would be involved.

Mr. LiFrieri: Was there any escalation included in the property?

Mr. Canty: No, most of the property is in forestry and the campus loses value as operations decrease.

Mr. Hutchinson: Is there planning for other usage of the property going on now?

Mr. Canty: Yes, there is master planning with Holtec for us to determine what we want to do with the property. There are discussions on preservation, recreation, commercial, blue economy, and ecotourism.

Ms. Holmes: If Holtec subdivides the property do we have the right of first refusal for every parcel?

Mr. Canty: Yes.

Ms. Holmes: How soon will Holtec be selling the property?

Mr. Canty: I have heard in the next 12 to 24 months.

Ms. Holmes: How are we being aggressive to fund the possible purchase?

Mr. Canty: We are working with the conservation groups and others that are interested in the land but we are careful of what strings are attached. David Gould is pursuing grants.

Ms. Holmes: Where is the funding for the appraisals? Does it need Town Meeting approval?

Mr. Canty: Generally, it would be a Capital Outlay item funded with free cash or the environmental affairs fund. It's likely to be before Spring Town meeting to get the first appraisal going.

Ms. Holmes: It is critical to have a task force working on the funding. The school buildings will need funding on the same timeline.

The motion was made to support Article 17 by Wrestling Brewster and seconded by David Golden.

The motioned carried. 14: yes. 4: not present Precinct 1, Precinct 5, Precinct 6 and Precinct 10..

Nip Proposal Legislation by Bill Arienti : Rescheduled for November meeting.

Motions by George McKay:

George McKay spoke of two motions: to change the order of the articles, moving Article 5 to be heard first and to take out the exemption for town property in Blight Bylaw document. Mr. McKay presented a comprehensive power point with pictures of town property and explained why municipalities should not be exempt from the bylaw. Mr. McKay reported that his amendments to Art.15, the Nip Ban, had been ruled out of scope by the Moderator. He will be voting no on Art.15.

Questions, answers, comments:

Ms. Holmes: Expressed concern that the bylaw is not custom written for Plymouth. The bylaw should be rejected and rewritten.

Mr. Golden: Why remove the town when the town would not fine itself?

Mr. McKay: It is important to show that town properties also have graffiti and possible rodents.

Oversight Committee Update:

Alan Costello was not available to give the Oversight Committee update.

Ms. Adelmann reported that the Oversight Committee had voted not to approve the administrative assistant because at present the committee does not know what the needs are.

Kevin Lynch joined, filling in for Prec 5 Chair, Michael Leary at 8 PM.

COPC Administrative Assistant, Article 2A:

Ms. Holmes asked the Town Manager, Derek Brindisi, if the article did not pass, then would the town be able to support the Bylaw Committee and the Legislative Oversight Committee? Mr. Brindisi said that it would be difficult.

Mr. Golden supports the article. He thinks the Charter Review Committee will be putting more responsibility on the COPC.

Mr. McKay explained that unless there is a motion to separate Art.2A from the rest of the article, it will be voted with everything else in Art.2.

Mr. Brewster is supporting Art.2A. If the COPC wants to move forward, administrative staff would help.

Mr. Golden appreciates the administrative help of Michelle Turner on the Charter Review Committee and recommends that the COPC have administrative help.

Ms. Wentworth supports administrative staff for the COPC. Ms. Wentworth asked Mr. Brindisi how the position would work if the CPC does not fund a twenty hour position.

Mr. Brindisi explained at length why he believes the CPC needs a full time administrative position. If CPC only funds 10 hours then Mr. Brindisi would hire staff for a 30 hour position.

Ms. Wentworth asked why now instead of Spring Town Meeting?

Mr. Brindisi answered that logistically it would be beneficial to advertise for one administrative position to serve both committees instead of going back to Town

Meeting in the spring and asking for another part time position.

Ms. Adelman stated that the CPC has their own funding for administration. The CPC vote for town staff support was taken when there was not full attendance. The vote was pushed during the discussion.

Mr. Delafield asked about a full time staff meant to fulfill a position that may not be needed.

Mr. Brindisi doesn't know who is saying they don't need the position. He again said that the CPC voted for part time help but admits that CPC did not specify a sum of money. The CPC has to vote on it.

Mr. Hutchison said the CPC is a result of the Community Preservation Act. Five percent of the CPC funds can be used for administration. What prevents the CPC from hiring their own staff?

Mr. Brindisi said that by the Town Charter only the Town Manger can hire staff.

Mr. Golden said that we are muddying the waters with the CPC.

Mr. Canty explained that the COPC can have the administrative staff without the CPC component. For talent, acquisition and retention, full time is best. It could be a part time hire or a present staff with additional hours.

He went on to promote a COPC staff to improve efficiency, effectiveness and transparency.

Mr. Tavares emphasized the need for support staff to answer questions especially with the subcommittees coming on board. To move forward the COPC needs this help.

Ms. Holmes said that she could not endorse this when approached by Mr. Brindisi because it had not been discussed. Being chair is a joy. It requires about 20 hours a week of my time taking phone calls, arranging and scheduling speakers, reading the minutes and getting all the information. Having administrative help can only make us better. Ms. Holmes supports this article.

Mr. Tavares motioned to support Article 2 line 3 for administrative staff.

Seconded by Mr. Brewster.

Mr. Delafield's concern is not that we don't need the help but adding a full time staff to the town that is not fully needed is his question.

Mr. McKay questioned the \$25,000 being to support part time help to the COPC and the CPC.

Mr. Brindisi clarified that \$25,000 was only to support the COPC and any subcommittees.

Mr. Lynch asked if Anthony Senesi works for the Town Manager and the Select Board And if the \$25,000 position would be only for the COPC.

Mr. Brindisi answered yes.

Mr. Lynch said that would be 80 hours a month. It behooves us to meet more.

Ms Holmes said that we meet twice a month as needed.

Mr. Lynch supports this.

The vote was called.

Motion carried.

13 yes

3 abstain: Prec 3, Gerry Siricco, Prec 11, Frank O'Brien, Prec 12, Pat Adelman

2 not present Precincts 6 and 10

Ms Holmes said that she would be stepping down after this term. She cannot wait to see the progress that this board will make with an administrative assistant.

Charter Review Committee Update, David Golden:

The next meeting is Tues. Nov. 7, 6 PM, in the Ropewalk Room at Town Hall.

Mr. Brindisi will attend. Sections 1 and 10 have been covered, with extensive discussion about Conflict of Interest. No votes were taken. Chapter 2, with the exceptions of the Moderator and Advisory and Finance Committee will be discussed at our next meeting. Everyone is encouraged to join us.

Parliamentarian:

Ms. Holmes appointed:

Pompey Delafield, Parliamentarian

Joe Hutchinson, Deputy Parliamentarian

Wrestling Brewster, Deputy Parliamentarian

Approval of Minutes, Pat Adelman:

Minutes of 9/11/2023: Motioned to approve by Mr. Golden. Seconded by Ms. Holmes.

Precinct 1 Chris Pratt remote	YES
Precinct 2 Matt Tavares Vice Chair	YES
Precinct 3 Gerry Sirrico	ABSTAIN
Precinct 4 Clare Montanari	ABSTAIN
Precinct 5 Kevin Lynch 8:00 PM	NOT PRESENT
Precinct 6 Not Present	NOT PRESENT
Precinct 7 David Golden	YES
Precinct 8 George McKay	ABSTAIN
Precinct 9 Kathryn Holmes Chair	YES
Precinct 10 Alan Costello remote	NOT PRESENT
Precinct 11 Frank O'Brien remote	YES
Precinct 12 Pat Adelman Clerk	YES
Precinct 13 Sue Wentworth remote	YES
Precinct 14 Tom Begley	YES
Precinct 15 Wrestling Brewster	ABSTAIN
Precinct 16 Pompey Delafield	ABSTAIN
Precinct 17 Joe Hutchinson	YES
Precinct 18 Carmen Lifrieri	YES

9 YES, 6 ABSTAIN, 3 NOT PRESENT Motion carried.

Minutes of 9/21/2023: Motioned by Mr. Brewster. Seconded by Ms. Holmes

Precinct 1 Chris Pratt remote YES

Precinct 2 Matt Tavares Vice Chair YES

Precinct 3 Gerry Sirrico	ABSTAIN
Precinct 4 Clare Montanari	ABSTAIN
Precinct 5 Kevin Lynch 8:00 PM	ABSTAIN
Precinct 6 Not Present	NOT PRESENT
Precinct 7 David Golden	YES
Precinct 8 George McKay	ABSTAIN
Precinct 9 Kathryn Holmes Chair	YES
Precinct 10 Alan Costello remote	NOT PRESENT
Precinct 11 Frank O'Brien remote	YES
Precinct 12 Pat Adelman Clerk	YES
Precinct 13 Sue Wentworth remote	YES
Precinct 14 Tom Begley	ABSTAIN
Precinct 15 Wrestling Brewster	YES
Precinct 16 Pompey Delafield	ABSTAIN
Precinct 17 Joe Hutchinson	YES
Precinct 18 Carmen Lifrieri	YES

10 YES, 6 ABSTAIN, 2 NOT PRESENT Motion carried.

Old and New Business:

Ms. Holmes is still collecting names for participants for the Handbook Update.
 Mr. Tavares volunteered. Bylaw review will be ramping up after Town Meeting.
 It's to be determined whether to form a subcommittee or work within COPC.

Public Comment:

Susan Wentworth asked for volunteers for the America's Home Thanksgiving Celebration Committee. No matter how little or how big, the help would be very much appreciated.

Ms. Holmes reminds everyone that Town meeting is Saturday, (Oct.21) at 8 AM. It is on PACTV.

Stephen Michael Palmer thanked all for their hard work. He spoke in opposition to the Nip ban. Mr. Palmer's friend, Russ Whiting owns a package store. He said that if customers can't buy a small nip then they will buy a bigger bottle and get more drunk.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Brewster and seconded by Mr. Golden. All in favor.
 Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Minutes approved on 11/16/2023
 Submitted by Pat Adelman

