



TOWN OF MAYNARD TOWN CLERK

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
195 MAIN STREET
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MINUTES STM, November 8, 2018

To assemble at 7pm in Fowler School Auditorium

A quorum was obtained at 7 p.m. and Special Town Meeting commenced.

Moderator Richard Downey opened the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

The guest list was made available by Moderator Downey. Guests must wear their guest badge and sit in the designated guest area. Guests may only speak on issues if invited or requested to by a town official and acknowledged by the moderator.

Moderator asked residents to please clearly state name and address each time they get up to speak. Please stay on topic and be concise. If you have more than one question please go to rear of line to give equal opportunity to others. Please be respectful at all times to other residents and town officials.

Motion made by resident William Kohlman and seconded @ 7:04pm to waive the reading of the warrant in its entirety but be made part of the record of this meeting and that the moderator be allowed to refer to the article by subject matter instead of reading the article completely. Accepted.

Article 1: A vote to prohibit the sale of Town of Maynard water and sewer services to other Towns, developers, and communities; not located within the boundaries of the Town of Maynard excluding existing customers.

Presenting for Article 1, Ron Calabria
Slide show presentation and history/status of water/sewer in town.

7:28pm

Finance Committee: Does not recommend.

Ken Estabrook, Chair of Finance Committee presents "Statement of Reasons"

Questions

P. Keefe, Maple Street

Q. A point of clarification on this being a non-binding measure- to me it means we are just giving town officials our opinion on this matter so I don't understand part 2 of what Fin Comm presented.

Dick Downey-Moderator

That is an accurate depiction

K. Estabrook- Chair

A. That is the legal opinion of our town counsel we would also submit to the Attorney Generals (AG) office for confirmation.

Follow up question

P. Keefe

If this vote is not binding why does it matter?

D. Downey-Moderator

AG office confirmed town counsel is correct but as citizens you can express your concerns on such matters but cannot do anything that binds the selectmen.

P. Keefe

If this is a non-binding vote in the future would a town meeting be needed to reverse it?

D. Downey

A town meeting would not be required.

L. Cutaia, Wilson Cir.

I would like to hear from the Board of Selectmen (BoS)

D. Downey

BoS have not taken an official position or vote. Would you like 5 individual opinions?

They may individually do so as citizens if they choose.

BoS choose to do so and would vote as follows:

David Gavin-Yes

Chris DiSilva- No

Melissa Levine-Piro-No

Armand Diarbekirian-Yes

Justine St. John-No

Ron Calabria, Deer Path (presenter of Article 1)

Restated accuracy points from presentation.

J. Jones, Nick Ln.

I agree with Fin Comm that BoS should consult strategic plan to manage long term resources.

D. Downey

A master plan is currently in the process.

A. Miklosko, Director DPW

The town does have a plan and we will follow it.

M. Gunnerson, Parker St.

If we have water/sewer bans why would we sell when we have restrictions?

K. Scuoteguazza, Oscar's Way

Will a yes vote set rigid guidelines on never selling? Could we reverse a yes vote at another town meeting?

D. Downey

We would not need a town meeting as the vote is non-binding.

V. Tomy, Powdermill Rd.

Town counsel in my opinion carries no weight in this matter. Our charter prohibits town counsel from giving opinion on a citizen's petition article.

K. Piro, Lantern Ln.

I would not want to short hand our elected officials in the matter. It would be unfunded and tie our hands.

E. Milligan, Lincoln St.

How does a yes vote tie our hands if it is non-binding?

M. Levine-Piro, Lantern Ln.

A vote, even non-binding, still has a lot of sway at future BoS meetings.

Vote Results

Dick Downey- Moderator

Yes-91, No-30, Article 1 carries.

Motion to dissolve, seconded.

8:15pm Special Town Meeting dissolved.

Respectfully submitted
Diane N. Donovan
Assistant Town Clerk
12/05/2018