

## COMMITTEE TO REVIEW TOWN COUNCIL RULES AND TOWN CODE

Selectmen's Conference Room 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Town Hall Building  
367 Main Street Hyannis, MA 02601

June 04, 2024

5:00pm

Councilor Kris Clark (Chair)  
Councilor Kristin Terkelsen  
Councilor Seth Burdick  
Vice President of the Council Craig Tamash  
Councilor Betty Ludtke

## MEETING MINUTES

Administrator for the Town Council opened the meeting of the Committee to Review Town Council Rules and Town Code in the Selectmen's Conference Room at 2:00pm and made the following announcement:

This meeting is being recorded and will be rebroadcast on the Town of Barnstable's Government Access Channel. In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30A, Section 20, the Administrator must inquire whether anyone else is recording this meeting and, if so, please make their presence known. This meeting will be replayed via Xfinity Channel 8 or high-definition Channel 1072. It may also be accessed via the Government Access Channel live video on demand archives on the Town of Barnstable's website: <https://streaming85.townofbarnstable.us/CablecastPublicSite/?channel=1>

The administrator to the Town Council took a Roll call, all members present in the Selectmen's Conference Room with the exception of Councilor Burdick.

Also in Attendance was Karen Nober, Town Attorney and Allison Cogliano, Assistant Town Attorney

Administrator took nominations for Chair, Councilor Clark nominated Vice President Tamash, an explanation from the Administrator to the Committee members was that Vice President Tamash could not be a Chair of any Committee due to the current Town Council Rule 11B Councilor Betty Ludtke nominated Councilor Clark, this was seconded by Councilor Terkelsen, all members voted in the positive, the Chair of this Committee is Councilor Kris Clark. The Chair read the Charge of this Committee again for the record:

- **PURPOSE:** Work closely with the Town's Legal staff to review the documents to ensure consistency with existing process and practices and recommend revisions to the Council.

The Chair of Committee asked for public comment via the Zoom link provided to the Public.

Mr. Larry Morin his concerns is in Chapter 241, he feels is a disaster of a document

Mr. Bob Schulte, has concerns with consecutive terms on leaderships of Committees, suggested term limits, and cap the amount of involvement of residents on multiple Committees

Mr. Hector Guenther (via Zoom) he would like to see a smaller Town Council membership

Chair of the Committee addressed the public comments made; Chair Clark discussed the Community Preservation Act and its prescribed assignments for committee members, and some of the other Committees have the same assignments and representation from other Boards/Committee/ Commissions She expressed her thoughts on the potential limitations of individuals serving as chair for multiple committees, suggesting that some people might be better suited to chair one committee due to their organizational skills and experience. Chair Clark also welcomed suggestions from others and

encouraged the idea of taking turns as a solution for individuals serving on multiple boards. She mentioned a recent occurrence where this principle was practically applied when a board member did not want to serve as a liaison to another committee.

Attorney Karen Nober reaffirmed the Charge of the Committee was to look at the Town Council Rules and Code to make sure the documents are in sync, what Mr. Guenther and others might like to see change is not in the Town Code or Rules, but in the Charter, and that this Committee is not charged to look at, that would be a separate Committee to look at the Charter.

The Chair of the Committee asked the other members for any suggestions they may have to move forward and proposed that the legal staff review the Town's Code and Rules to identify items for cleanup and to ensure structural consistency. Town Attorney, Karen Nober, suggested starting with the Town Council rules, a discrete document that could benefit from substantial cleanup. The Committee members agreed to meet on Monday, the 25th, to begin the review process, with the aim of making quick progress on this task.

Councilor Terkelsen mentioned the document and links of information that was gathered by her from the Massachusetts Municipal Association from Town that had the same form of government and leadership as the Town of Barnstable and asked that the members of this Committee review and potentially incorporating any of those rules into our document. Councilor Terkelsen was asked to send to Attorney Nober and her staff the links and documents she had provided so they could also look at them.

Chair of Committee asked for a motion to adjourn, Councilor Ludtke made the motion to adjourn, Vice President Tamash seconded, all members present voted in favor of adjournment.

ADJOURN: 5:36 pm