

## REPORT ON THE SELECTBOARD MEETING OF MAY 9, 2017

Prepared by Rick Cliffe

**Note:** (1). These are not official minutes -- -- just notes taken by me. Official minutes will be available from the Town Office and will be posted on the Town web site and at the Town Office and other places following Board approval at the next meeting.

(2). If anyone wishes to stop receiving these reports, they may simply hit "Reply" and request to be deleted from the list or say "Unsubscribe."

(3). Reports of earlier meetings and some supplementary materials are available at Rick Freeman's Town Meeting website - [www.singingbridge.net](http://www.singingbridge.net).

THE MEETING: I was the only member of the general public present. There was a group of people who came to discuss the First Church (see below) and the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) came to review the proposed budget with the selectmen.

The minutes of the meeting of April 25, 2017 were approved. They will be posted on the Town website.

MOST IMPORTANT/INTERESTING ITEMS: In my judgment, the following items were the most important things covered during the meeting.

- **Liquor Licenses:** The Board held two hearings and approved liquor licenses for Robinhood Ventures LTD (caterer) and Live Edge, Inc. for the Osprey Restaurant. Tiffany Avery-Lake was there to support the Osprey request.
- **First Church:** Four members of the First Church Group attended to request/discuss a proposed warrant article for the Town Meeting. There was considerable discussion. The vision is to create the "First Church Arts and Education Center" which could be used for weddings, funerals, concerts, and education (in the basement). If approved, the article would have the Board setup a committee to plan and ultimately execute the vision. The group has had some very preliminary work done by local architects but has no plans to show. That would come after approval of the warrant article. The Board voted 3-0 to include this article on the warrant.
- **Update to Georgetown Comprehensive Plan:** This was a follow-up to significant discussion held at the previous meeting at which the Comprehensive Plan Exploratory Group had requested that an article be added to the Town Meeting warrant to authorize proceeding with the Comprehensive Planning Process and spend up to \$10,000 for a consultant to support the effort. There was a short discussion and the Board voted 2-1 to include an article in the warrant.
- **Town Budget:** Members of the FAC presented the proposed School and Town budget to the Selectboard. There was brief discussion of a few line items, mostly to clarify why specific lines had changed substantially from the current year's budget. The only issue that may impact the overall budget is very recent announcement by one teacher that she is going to retire. The School Committee and Administration have elected to try to estimate the impact and update their proposed budget. The bottom line, as it stood at the meeting, shows total requests decreased 0.3%, total to be raised by property tax decreased 1.5%, which leads to a 3.7% decrease in projected mil rate for 2017-18. Remember, the School Budget hearing is this coming Tuesday at 6:00 pm and the Town Budget hearing is Wednesday at 7:00 pm.
- **Assessing Items:** The town property tax maps have been recently updated. They are available for viewing at the Town Office.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Mary reported on correspondence received. For a complete listing of this correspondence, see the Meeting Agenda at: [www.georgetownme.com/Meeting-Agendas-and-Minutes.php](http://www.georgetownme.com/Meeting-Agendas-and-Minutes.php)

The most interesting items were:

- MDOT provided a 2016 inspection report for the Williams Road Bridge in West Georgetown. The report shows no significant problems at this time.
- The town received a request for funding from New Hope for Women. It was too late to be considered in this year's budget. Kate MacKay asked that we send a letter to them advising what the deadline is.
- The latest Principal's Report for GCS advised that the new generator is installed and working and that remaining roof replacement will start soon and complete this summer.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Boards and Committees:** A flyer has been made up to seek volunteers for openings on Boards and Committees. It will be distributed around the community and made available at hearings and the town meeting. Ms. MacKay has also been working with a couple of people to setup a short Volunteer Fair which will be held at 8:30-9:00, before the Town Meeting in June.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Andy King has resigned from the Town Owned Property Management Board effective immediately. This is an elected position and it is too late to take out papers. It may be addressed as a write-in on the June ballot.

UPCOMING EVENTS/DATES:

<b>Date &amp; Time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Tuesday, May 16, 6:00 pm	School Budget Hearing	GCS	
Wednesday, May 17, 7:00 pm	Municipal Budget Hearing	GCS	
Tuesday, June 6, 7:00 pm	Meet the Candidates	GCS	
Tuesday, June 13, 8:00-8:00	Local Election	GCS	
Saturday, June 17, 9:00	Town Meeting	GCS	Volunteer Fair 8:30 – 9:00
Thursday, May 18, 1:00-4:00	Game Day	GCC	
Saturday, May 20, 5:00 pm	Pot Luck Dinner	5:00	Asian food

The next meeting of the Selectboard will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, May 23rd at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Cliffe