



TOWN OF GROTON

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Board of Selectmen

Joshua A. Degen, *Chairman*
Barry A. Pease, *Vice-Chairman*
Alison S. Manugian, *Clerk*
John G. Petropoulos, *Member*
Rebecca H. Pine, *Member*

Town Manager
Mark W. Haddad

To: *Board of Selectmen*

From: *Mark W. Haddad – Town Manager*

Subject: *Weekly Report*

Date: *September 11, 2017*

1. Scheduled on Monday's Agenda are three items. First, Groton Neighbors has requested time on the Agenda to introduce themselves to the Board. Enclosed in with the Agenda is a flier that outlines who they are and what they offer. Second, the Economic Development Committee will be present to provide the Board with their Annual Report. Finally, the Board will be conducting a public hearing to change the premises and transfer the liquor license for the Station House Restaurant.
2. Enclosed, please find Selectman Manugian's proposed amendments to the Selectmen's Policies and Procedures. I would respectfully request that the Selectmen consider adopting these amendments at Monday's meeting.
3. While determining the date for the proposed Open Meeting Law Training, Dawn Dunbar discovered a policy the Board had adopted in 2014 relative to the Open Meeting Law. Specifically, the Board voted that instead of requiring that appointed individuals attend a night of training, the Board required that individuals read the Open Meeting Law Guide and complete a certificate at the end of the guide certifying that they received and read the guide and understood the requirements and return it to the Selectmen's Office. All appointed Committee members were sent a notice of this policy and complied with this requirement. Newly appointed Committee members receive the Open Meeting Law Guide from the Town Clerk when they are sworn in and comply with the policy. Before we schedule the Training, I would ask the Board if it is necessary in light of this previous policy. We can discuss this further at Monday's meeting.
4. Enclosed with this report is the first draft of the 2017 Fall Town Meeting Warrant. I would like to take a few minutes reviewing this draft with the Board at Monday's meeting. Please note that we had scheduled and advertised the public hearing on the Warrant with the Finance Committee for your meeting of September 18th. We advertised it two weeks ago as has been our standard practice. Since that time, Selectman Degen has informed me that he will not be available to attend that meeting. Selectman Petropoulos will also not be in attendance. I would ask the Board if you still want to go forward with the hearing, or reschedule it for another date. Please note that delaying the hearing will limit the amount of time between the hearing and the posting of the Warrant. We can discuss this further at Monday's meeting.

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5. With regard to the Warrant, I would respectfully request that the Selectmen consider opening the Warrant to add a Citizens' Petition Article to the Warrant. On the day the Warrant closed, I received a request from Stephen Palmer of 81 Boston Road to add an Article to the Warrant to re-zone the former Catholic Church located at 279 Main Street from R-A to VBC. Mr. Palmer has told me that the objective of this rezoning is to permit renovation of the property for the use as a theater suitable for screening of independent and foreign films, as well as for live theater uses. I had requested that the Planning Board consider sponsoring the Article, but they declined since Mr. Palmer has not yet obtained ownership of the property. The only way to get this on the Warrant is by Citizens' Petition. Since Mr. Palmer did submit the Article prior to closing, I believe the Selectmen can open the Warrant and officially add the Citizens' Petition. We can discuss this further at Monday's meeting.

MWH/rjb

enclosures