

Shared Resource Committee Meeting
RHS Media Center
May 25, 2017
Approved June 22, 2017

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Present: Member Citizens Carol Watjus, Neva Cole, Rani Merryman at 7:10. School Board Members Joseph Saulnier, Sandy Ellis for the school district. Selectmen Jonathan Wood, Jack Barnes, as well as Police Chief David Salois for the Town of Raymond. Wayne Watjus was present as an alternate.

Proof of Posting: Joe Saulnier

A discussion of what a quorum of the meeting is and who can vote.

Carol Watjus has issue of why we need to have a charge and agreed with Doug on his letter.
"See Below"

Letter from Doug Vogel,

Resource Committee, for 25 May 2017

My apologies again for not being able to attend tonight's meeting, I am out on town business. If I calculate correctly and we maintain the every other 2 week schedule, the next scheduled meeting would be June 8 th . If that is correct, I will again not be able to attend because it will be my son's graduation. Please consider moving scheduled meeting date.

I have watched the June 11 th meeting and as expected the attendance is already low and only two non-government board member were present. To this point, I ask why we have "alternates" established on a committee that has no power; we are purely a townspeople resource committee to make recommendations to the two governing bodies. If we had ten or twenty people attending and participating in the committee then that would be a great 'problem' to have: townspeople engagement.

As for the use of a common server for email and our operations under the governing boards. Help me understand why, we are purely volunteers and open to all of Raymond and have nothing to hide, just to build unification between the selectmen, school and tax payers. Based on the last election, there seems to be a disconnect. That is why we are here. If we operated openly with posting and posting to RCTV, nothing we do is legal, we purely research, receive input, make recommendations to the governing bodies.

Do we as a group go back to the governing boards and ask for cancelation of our chartering and ask for their resource support and repeal of this committee? Whether we are chartered or not, the outcome is the same: we make recommendations. We do not need to vote, only to obtain townspeople consensus. I only currently see limitations and our hands being tied under the governing boards. As a group of many townspeople with governing bodies supporting, I believe we have a better and open success in our goals of unity.

What I consistently hear during our 11 May meeting and during many other town meetings from the two boards is "the people need to understand", I think the governing bodies need to understand. This thought process is what divides us.

The governing bodies need to listen and hear the townspeople, not tell them what they do not understand. Boards should not be on the defensive, take the input in and truly listen to build trust.

The brain trust and thought process that got our town in this predicament is not the same thought process that is able to get us out of the problems we are in. We have to change how we think, if we want to get out of the issue we are under.

We, the TOWN, have to establish a trust and open communication as was stated during the 11 May meeting. The governing bodies cannot continue to do the same thing and asking why the people are not engaged. The monthly 'on the common' makes sense about what happen on one side and next month's agendas. Once you build the trust, the interval can be adjusted. These boards need to specifically ask the townspeople for their support, not leave them in the seats with the opinion of our voice does not matter. You say it does, and the people say it does not. Which one is real?

The reality of the townspeople's matter more. How about after each agenda item, the board specifically opens up and ask those in attendance for comments. Keep the meeting flowing and move on. We got to start somewhere. I agree, that posting at the school/town buildings meets the RSAs, it does not communicate to the people. We as the town need to proactively post/distribute/relay to the people, not rely on a volunteer to post on their online community service.

Would it be possible to focus on 3-4 items of great importance to our town? So far I am hearing COMMUNICATIONS and I believe the March 2018 Contract voting (3 contracts) could be one because I asses right now they will all three fail if there is any tax payers cost increase.

Thank you for your time and look forward to meeting with you at the next schedule meeting.

Wr,

Doug

Carol Watjus asks why we need to be a governed board?

Ron stated that at this point at time we need to follow the RSA. We need to post an agenda and do minutes. We just can not have anybody vote. If the committee wants they could disband the committee and create their own citizens committee.

Neva says that he feels that Doug wants a more citizen driven committee. Would the school and town be willing to help with that.

Chief Salois asked for the people who do not know what would be the difference?

Rani Merryman stated that she believes the boards have different information than citizens have. Rani mentioned that when we go into non-public session we as a board have more information.

Joseph Saulnier and Ron Brickett stated that most non-public session are about personal issues.

Carol Watjus stated that she and Doug believe that they would like everyone to vote.

Neva Coles thinks we could do allot of good just the way it is. Neva asked if we need to vote on leaving the committee the way it is.

Joseph Saulnier stated that we do not need to take a vote on keeping it the way it is.

Neva Cole read the charge for agreement.

Charge to Joint School and Town

Resources Committee

1. The goal of the Raymond School Board and the Board of Selectmen is to develop

(with the input of Raymond's Citizens) a plan that will develop priorities for the future of Raymond.

2. The Joint Committee will only function in an advisory capacity and cannot commit

the School Board and/or the Town of Raymond to any binding agreement, written or

oral. The School Board and Selectmen recognize the Joint Resources Committee as

representatives of the voting public and will maintain an advisory Committee.

3. The School Board and Selectmen believe in planning to meet the educational and town needs of our citizens. With thoughtful planning, decisions can be made without burdening the taxpayers beyond their ability to pay.
4. The Joint Boards have solicited citizens to help develop a plan that will result in sound recommendations to both Boards on the future needs of Raymond.
5. The Committee may consult with the Superintendent and Town Manager and other administrators in the District and Town of Raymond. The Committee may also consult with state, federal and community officials as the need arises. These correspondence should be filtered through the facilitator.
6. The Committee was established in April, 2017. This Committee is expected to continue beginning in May 2017, complete its recommendations and submit a report to the School Board and Selectmen no later than October, 2017.
7. The Committee will hold posted meetings on a regular basis, be responsible to inform the School Board and Selectmen, have representatives attend both School Board and Selectmen meetings to report on the progress of the Committee, and receive input and feedback. The School Board members and Selectmen who are Committee members will interact and bring information back to their respective Boards.
8. (A) The Committee shall select a Co-Facilitators other than the School Board Representative or Selectman. The Chair shall prepare agendas and conduct all meetings.

(B) The Co-Facilitators shall develop a written plan for the conduct of business.

(C) A Secretary will be chosen to record minutes of the meeting.

Questions for Survey

1: What is the best way to get a hold of you?

1. Email
2. Facebook
3. Raymond Area News
4. Snail Mail
5. Other _____

2: From the items listed below, please choose the top three priorities that you believe Raymond should address. Put a #1 next your first choice; a #2 next to your second choice; and a #3 next to your third choice. Please fill in the blank next to "other" if you have a priority other than those listed.

_____ Replace Public Works Vehicles

_____ Paint/Upkeep Water Towers

_____ Build an addition to the Elementary School "9.2 Million Dollars"

_____ A New Elementary School "35-40 Million Dollars"

_____ Get a 1 million dollar bond for road repairs

_____ Build a new Police Station "6.8 Million Dollars"

_____ Purchase property for a new Elementary School

_____ Purchase a building for Town Hall

_____ Purchase Fire Department Equipment and Vehicle

_____ New town charter to change form of government

_____ Do you want to bond or save for your selections.

_____ Other

3: What services can be eliminated?

_____ Pay as you throw trash program

_____ Mosquito Spraying

_____ Social Services

_____ Recreation Programs

_____ Football / Sports

4: Should the town bond a sewer system. "12-15 million dollars"

Yes / No

5: Would you be willing to donate your money over and above your taxes, directly to a specific project / fund / athletic fields. Could we add this to our tax bill?

Yes / No

Other Discussions:

Rani Merryman stated that she thinks we may want to look at cutting teachers in the elementary school to increase class sizes from grades 1-3.

Jack stated the he believes that teachers are very important in the country, but we need to listen to the citizens.

Chief Salois asked about saving for the future and how that would happen. Do we save \$30,000 a year for 100 years for a project?

Caral Watjus asked about cutting social services and having citizens selecting them on their own. Is there double dipping?

Jonathan Wood stated that we need to look at how much we spend compared to how much we get in services.

Chief Salois talked about how the social services are used by the citizens who need it the most, the victims of certain situations.

Jack stated that we have this discussion every year and that everyone has a voice. That the citizens can come in and voice that they do not want it. These companies come in every year and tell the Selectmen where this money goes. Administration cost are always discussed.

Could we put all back taxes into a fund for future projects. Joe Saulnier discussed that this was talked about last week about those go in the general fund.

Jonathan talked about the issues of taking over the land and what could happen if the town did.

Next meeting to be held June 6, 2017

Motion: Joe Saulnier makes a motion to adjourn, Neva Coles seconds. Passes 6-0

Respectfully Submitted by:
Joseph Saulnier
Secretary