

Government Oversight Committee

A meeting of the Government Oversight Committee was held in the Town Hall Hearing Room on Monday, March 10, 2008. The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

Present: Jack Grebe, Jim Hall, Jack Howard, Jessie Mazzur, Charlotte Striebel, Tom Sullivan.

Absent: Tom Murphy,

The minutes of the February 11, 2008 meeting, which had been distributed, were corrected to read “Members have been invited to meet with the Finance Committee this evening (2/11/08).....” Motion to approve, as corrected, was made by Tom Sullivan, seconded by Jack Grebe. Vote was unanimous.

The non-binding ballot question regarding town-wide trash pick-up was discussed and Tom wanted to make a motion at the April Town Meeting that approval of questions to be placed on the ballot should first come before Town Meeting for debate. It was suggested that since the question under discussion was non-binding, it would be best to wait and see what the ballot results were and then decide what action should be taken.

The “5 minute rule” for discussion on Warrant Articles was discussed. We were uncertain as to what is stated in the Charter. It was decided to invite Tom George to a meeting prior to the April 8th Town Meeting, preferably March 31st, or at his convenience, to discuss the 5-minute rule, and the recommendation made by the committee on July 10, 2006, that for the Town Meeting to continue past 10 PM, a 2/3rd vote of the people present would be required.

No action was taken on our discussion regarding ballot questions being placed on a Warrant prior to being on a ballot. Jack Grebe moved, seconded by Jack Howard, to send a letter to the Board of Selectmen. As Jessie was leaving for two weeks in Florida, she asked Charlotte to write the letter.

In view of the fact that Tom Murphy has not been attending meetings, Jack Grebe will call him regarding his interest in continuing to serve on the GOS Committee.

There being no further business to come before the committee, a motion to adjourn was made at 4:45 PM. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlotte B. Striebel
Recorder