

**Town of Cape Elizabeth
Cape Elizabeth Town Council
Workshop Notes
March 5, 2012**

The town council met in workshop session at 7:00 p.m. at the Cape Elizabeth Town Hall's William Jordan Conference Room.

All members were present and Jessie Timberlake and Beverly Brooking of the Riverside Cemetery Trustees and RuthAnne Haley of the Thomas Memorial Library Trustees. Bob Stier was present who is chair of the Thomas Memorial Library Foundation. Staff present were Mike McGovern and Jay Scherma.

Riverside Cemetery Master Plan

Jessie Timberlake presented an overview of the proposed master plan for Riverside Cemetery. She highlighted the process and expressed appreciation to the consultants, Debra Lane and Frank Governali. Mike McGovern summarized the two special funds for the cemetery which are the perpetual care fund and the capital fund.

There was a consensus to include on the next town council agenda a proposal to have a public hearing on April 9, 2012 on the proposed master plan for the cemetery. Recognizing limited investment income for the cemetery, there was also agreement that the town council would entertain a proposal in June 2012 to fund the stone wall extension with general fund monies from the unassigned fund balance.

Thomas Memorial Library and Cultural Center

The workshop continued with an active discussion on next steps in the process for planning for the Thomas Memorial Library and Cultural Center. Chairman Lennon and Councilor Walsh had met with Bob Stier to discuss the role of the Thomas Memorial Library Foundation.

The discussion focused on the approval mechanism for the project. While no votes were taken, Councilors Ray, Sherman, Sullivan and Walsh advocated that the town council has the responsibility "to lead" and to review and be knowledgeable of the details of the need for the project. They noted that the charter does not require a citizen referendum and that past municipal building projects had been approved solely by the town council.

Chairman Lennon and Councilors Governali and Jordan took the position that the amount of investment in a new facility is significant and that the town council should welcome a citizen plebiscite on the issue. They noted that all school projects are subject to a citizen referendum and that most citizens have the expectation for a vote. It was also noted that the discussion to this point has focused on the expectation that there would be a citizen vote. This is an important project in the town center and the public should fully have their input not only through the council process but also with a citizen vote.

Recognizing the council division on the issue and where the apparent majority lies, the town manager and the council chair were asked to develop a timeline for a town council vote including the potential dates for public meetings and public hearings. While the discussion focused on a council vote in October 2012, this date is subject to further review.

The town council also discussed project implementation issues. There appeared to be a consensus that following a decision to move forward that a new building committee would be formed and that there would be consideration of reviewing opportunities to choose an architect/project managers for the project. A building committee charge including the composition of such a committee will be developed at a later date.

Roosters

The town council and the planning board considered proposals over the last year to regulate the keeping of roosters in Cape Elizabeth. The council consensus at this workshop is to not pursue regulatory options at this time.

Notes Prepared by Michael McGovern

Note: Workshop notes are not reviewed and approved and are not intended to capture every thought expressed. No final decisions are made at workshops. The notes are intended to serve as a public record of the meeting pursuant to Maine statute.