

Structural Change Implementation Committee  
Minutes  
January 2, 2024  
Remote Meeting via Zoom

DATE: March 11, 2024  
TIME: 9:10 AM

Members present: Vicki Amalfitano, Tim Bucciarelli, John Kolterman, Paul Rickter  
Members absent: Larry Link  
Other attendees:

Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

**Town Meeting Explainer on Assessors**

The committee discussed the document that Mr. Bucciarelli wrote summarizing idea #416 - Appoint Board of Assessors (<https://www.02478.org/scig/ideas/416-appoint-member-to-board-of-assessors>) from the Structural Change Impact Group (SCIG) for Town Meeting members who will vote on this question at the January 22, 2024 Special Town Meeting. The committee agreed that the document accurately summarized the idea that was written in the SCIG report.

After discussion, the committee agreed to amend the document in the following ways:

- Add to the summary several Further Reading items from the SCIG report, including a video from the Massachusetts Department of Revenue Division of Local Services on transitioning to appointed committees, Mass General Law reference on appointment of Assessors by the Select Board, and municipal websites where Assessors are appointed.
- Provide an explanatory introduction on the inclusion of idea #216 - Appoint Various Town Positions (<https://www.02478.org/scig/ideas/216-appoint-all-positions-except-select-board-moderator>) from the SCIG report, which provides further background information on the concept of moving toward more appointed positions in town governance.
- Provide links to the 2022 Collins Center report and idea #413 - DLS Recommendations on Form of Government (<https://www.02478.org/scig/ideas/413-dls-recommendations-on-form-of-government>), which provide further background information on restructuring town governance in ways beyond elected/appointed positions.

After these changes, Ms. Amalfitano moved, Mr. Kolterman seconded, and the committee voted unanimously to approve the explainer. Mr. Rickter agreed to distribute the document through the Town Clerk in advance of the Special Town Meeting.

**Next Steps**

The committee further discussed SCIG idea #413 - DLS Recommendations on Form of Government and how we might proceed to implement more of the recommendations in the 2011 DLS (<https://www.mass.gov/doc/belmont-financial-management-review-august-2011/download>) and 2022 Collins Center ([https://www.belmont-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhliif6831f/uploads/belmont\\_transmittal\\_letter\\_and\\_financial\\_organization](https://www.belmont-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhliif6831f/uploads/belmont_transmittal_letter_and_financial_organization)

[review report - 6.14.22.pdf](#)) reports. Mr. Rickter said that any changes would need action of both the Select Board and Town Meeting, so one of these bodies would likely need to act to advance these changes, perhaps by appointing a commission. Mr. Bucciarelli suggested that our work as a committee might be to advocate moving forward on the DLS and Collins Center recommendations.

Mr. Kolterman volunteered to reach out to the Belmont Voice, to make sure that they are aware of the Collins Center and SCIG reports in their coverage of Belmont governance.

### **Public Comment**

No members of the public were present, so there was no public comment.

### **Next Meeting**

The committee agreed to schedule our next meeting for February 6 at 7pm.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Bucciarelli moved, Ms. Amalfitano seconded, and the committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:01pm.

Minutes submitted by Paul Rickter