Structural Change Impact Group Consolidation, Regionalization & Outsourcing Working Group

Minutes September 24, 2021 Meeting conducted via Zoom

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA

DATE: November 10, 2021

TIME: 3:05 PM

Members present: Mark Paolillo, Aaron Pikcilingis, Paul Rickter

Members absent: Brian Antonellis

Other attendees:

Meeting was called to order at 8:07am.

Scoring of Ideas on the Matrix

We reviewed ideas on the matrix that have not previously been scored. All items are identified by their ID numbers and are included in the committee idea matrix posted at https://www.dropbox.com/sh/b64yoe9y05lnwzb/AAB5iDttndB5Pfik6Wzo5Qgva?dl=0.

- Combine the operation of the Higginbottom and new Underwood pools to maximize revenues (ID 79) - scored at .37 - Rickter will consult with Assistant Town Administrator Jon Marshall.
- Evaluate cost/benefit of COA transportation (ID 95) scored at .17 Paolillo will consult with Council on Aging Director Nava Niv-Vogel.
- Legislators must work to limit or eliminate unfunded mandates from the state government (ID 99) scored at .40 Pikcilingis will do an initial write up.
- Lobby for changes at the state level in the current pension system and for additional healthcare reform (ID 100) suggest moving to Personnel, Compensation WG.
- Share Special Education costs with Lexington, Arlington, Bedford, and Burlington (ID 131) - Pikcilingis has written this up already, no score needed.
- Restrict liquor license transfers (ID 168) Pikcilingis has written this up already, no score needed.
- Join community compact to bring in funds for the Collins Center financial modeling (ID 169) - Rickter has written this up already, no score needed.
- Shared Nurse with Lexington (ID 178) Paolillo has written this up already, no score needed.
- Shared inspector with Watertown (ID 179) Pikcilingis will write this up, no score needed.
- Reorganize Town Accounting department (ID 189) scored at .40 Rickter will learn more about this from Town Accountant Glenn Castro.
- Open Marijuana Retail Dispensaries (ID 201) scored at .57 Rickter will get a status update from Town Administrator Patrice Garvin.
- Eliminate citizen building committees and hire good project managers (ID 212) -Pikcilingis will write this up, no score needed.

- Have a professional, appointed Town Clerk (ID 215) Paolillo has written this up already, no score needed.
- Change open meeting law to allow municipal gov't to operate more like private enterprise (ID 219) Rickter has written this up already, no score needed.
- Explore alternative financial products and financial advisors/firms to quickly adapt to market conditions to refinance or invest town funds (ID 240) - scored at .27 - Paolillo will talk to Town Treasurer Floyd Carman.
- Charge congestion pricing for traffic passing through Belmont Center (ID 272) -Pikcilingis and Rickter will write this up, no score needed.
- Go back to the Collins center for more help (ID 346) Rickter will learn more and write this up, we will score later.
- Can we consolidate our polling locations? (ID 360) Paolillo will talk to Town Clerk Ellen Cushman to find out more, we will score later.
- The town could sell advertising on billboards or e-billboards (ID 366) scored at .37 Paolillo will research the naming rights issue, for which we may already have a policy.

Meeting with Arlington Town Manager Next Week

The working group will meet with Arlington Town Manager at 8:00am on October 1. Members will send their questions in advance to Pikcilingis.

Future meeting schedule

October 1 at 8:00am, October 8 at 8:00am.

Adjourned at 9:26am (Moved: Rickter, Seconded: Paolillo, Voted 3-0)

Minutes recorded by Paul Rickter