

Oct. 15, 2017 TRANSCRIPT of COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Loker Warrant Article Program - pro/con

Selectmen

Over the past year, The Collins Center for Public Management has been working with the Town Administrator, Finance Director, the Finance Committee and others. Their assignment was to assess the financial health and financial management structure of the Town and provide recommendations for improvement. A draft report was presented to the Selectmen on October 10th. The report gives high marks for the quality and dedication of the Town's finance professionals and volunteers. But it cautions that the structure of Town government, [quote] "appears increasingly anachronistic among Wayland's peer communities"[unquote], and increasingly unable to handle the accelerating changes that must be managed. The report is comprehensive and includes a range of recommendations. The full draft report is available for download at the Buzz website.

The Selectmen also received the Fiscal 2019 draft operating budget for departments under the Selectmen's jurisdiction. Those interested can find that draft report on our website, as well.

Then they reviewed November Special Town Meeting articles. One expected action they took was to remove the library funding article, now that the state has granted the Town a requested extension to April 2018, to vote on the proposed new library.

Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission met on October 5th and heard a stormwater report prepared by a consultant for the developer of 24 School Street. It was reviewed by the Town Engineer and highlights a number of concerns about the potential impact from increased impervious surface area in the current design plan. The Conservation Commission is awaiting the report of its own peer review. And a neighborhood group funded its own consultant for an independent review. In that report, a US Geological Survey report indicates that Snake Brook was historically a perennial stream, and, in one interpretation of Mass wetland regulations, should still be considered as such today despite its current designation as an intermittent stream. Additionally, increased impervious surface area and proximity between the stormwater and wastewater systems in the proposed design, could result in a higher local water table.

Remember, our show airs on Sundays and Tuesdays, at 10am and 6pm on your Public cable channel. And Online On-Demand anytime at our website: WayCAM.tv/buzz. There you'll find downloads of documents presented on the show. You'll also find a transcript

Our next show, airs on Sunday, October 22nd. It's about the proposed playing field at Oxbow Meadows. The Town approved it and the Recreation Commission is all set to put the shovels in, but a group of abutters are saying, "Not so fast! This is not our field of dreams." They've appealed to the Zoning Board of Appeals, and have filed suit in Land Court. Recreation Chair Asa Foster will be back for that, and also Charles D'Ambrosio, one of the Wayland abutters opposing the expansion of the field.

Remember, if you have a Town issue you'd like discussed on the Buzz... Call us, email us, or use the contact form on our website. Tell us what's on your mind, and what you think about the show.