

Electronic Voting Committee Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2019

6:00PM
Baker Conference Room, Town Hall

Present: Susan Galvin, Kathleen Ryan Lavery, Robert Mallett, Frank Schroth, John Michael Shields

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Frank Schroth at 6:00 PM

Ms. Galvin informed members that she did not have the meeting minutes from the May 29, 2019 ready for the committee to approve.

Mr. Schroth provided a summary to the members on his meetings with Town Counsel, John Flynn and Town Administrator, Michael Dennehy; Town Government Study Committee and the Bylaw Review Committee. Mr. Schroth relayed the following comments from those meetings are detailed below:

- Support using electronic voting only for articles that required 2/3rds vote, roll calls or standing votes.
- Questioned how electronic voting would affect the Annual Report.
- Questioned who would determine when to use electronic voting. Overall sense was giving too much authority to Moderator to make determination.

Members discussed the results of the poll response. Members agreed that a concern in funding electronic voting was an overwhelming theme among the responses. Members also discussed that if the group continued to pursue an Electronic Voting article, the Town Moderator would need to take a position and champion the case.

As a result, the members discussed if this was the right time to present electronic voting to Town Meeting. Members agreed that an electronic system would offer Town Meeting the advantages of accuracy, speed, and accountability, however, questioned if the benefits outweighed the costs.

The members agreed this was not the right time to bring a recommendation to Town Meeting. Mr. Schroth will write a draft report once approved by committee it will be submitted to Town Moderator, Robert Hiss, informing him of our conclusion.

The committee will meet next on July 16.

Meeting adjourned 7:45pm.

Submitted by: Susan M. Galvin, Secretary