

Governance Committee 2.0 (9/1/15)

PURPOSE:

The Governance Committee shall review the organization structure of town Government and make recommendations to Board of Selectmen and/or Town Meeting on organizational modifications needed to meet the current times and improve the way Carver delivers services to the Community. As part of the Governance Committee's analysis it shall ensure that efficient and effective use of governmental resources are being used, and that decisions are based with short and long term operational and financial sustainability in mind to promote a sustainable government that Carver can be proud of. This review shall be done while incorporating all policies and procedures that have been adopted by Town Meeting and the Board of Selectmen.

MEMBERSHIP (appointed by Town Administrator – anticipated people):

1. Member BoS- **Dick Ward**
2. Member of Finance Committee- **John Cotter**
3. Member of Capital Outlay Committee- **Jack Angley**
4. Member of the community with organizational and operational experience- **Stephen Gray**
5. Member of the community with organizational and operational experience- **Jim Grimes**

TERM, MEETING, and PUBLIC OUTREACH:

The Governance Committee shall dissolve at the conclusion of 2016 Town Meeting tentatively scheduled for April 11, 2016. The Governance Committee shall meet at least monthly at a time convenient for its members. In addition the Governance Committee shall provide regular updates to the Board of Selectmen as well as up to date posting on the Web Site.

Action Items to Review

1. Explore opportunities to improve Town-By laws and governance structure.
2. Explore item funded by the Community Compact Grant:
 - a. Evaluate options for regionalization opportunities with surrounding towns Carver, Plympton, and Halifax (and other abutting town) at all levels where said partnerships will provide long term financial stability to the towns building on the success of a three-town regional community access cable station recently implemented. All options should be explored from combining individual department/services to merging the entire towns based on a quantitative and qualitative analysis on a cost/benefits approach, improved services, future changes to local governance realities etc. provided they are in the best long-term interest of Carver.
 - b. Evaluate and collaborate with the Governance Committee 2.0 on streamlining and creating financial efficiencies town-wide including the financial and management structure/departments of the Town to put the town in the best possible position for future management of the town. Options to include creating a combined municipal finance department to enhancing individual departments.
 - c. Evaluate in partnership with the School Committee, Board of Selectmen, and Governance Committee 2.0 the advantage and disadvantages including financial cost/savings of creating a town-wide facility and infrastructure department to oversee and maintain all town capital assets.
3. Explore roles of Finance Committee and Capital Outlay Committee and options going forward.
4. Explore and recommend other items on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, or residents that are Governance related.