



Rules Committee

John Gagliardi / Precinct 1 / Chair
Dina Favreau / Precinct 11 / Vice-Chair
Josh Mahoney / Precinct 2
Larry Norman / Precinct 3
Per Bojsen / Precinct 4
Mike Fantasia / Precinct 5

Joanna Korman / Precinct 6
Christopher Ravin / Precinct 7
Kelley Sardina / Precinct 8
Guillermo Perez / Precinct 9
Laureen Knowles / Precinct 10
Benjamin Perry / Precinct 12
John McKenna / Moderator / Ex-Officio

Date: Monday, May 13, 2024
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Meeting Room | Billerica Town Hall | 365 Boston Rd.

Meeting Minutes

Chair John Gagliardi called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Members in Attendance

John Gagliardi, Dina Favreau, Laureen Knowles, Guillermo Perez, Benjamin Perry, Christopher Ravin, Joanna Korman, Per Bojsen, Mike Fantasia, Larry Norman

Petitioner in Attendance

Daniel Darris-O'Connor, 2024 Spring Special Town Meeting Warrant Article 4 presenter.

Public Comment

None.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

John Gagliardi presented the minutes from the meeting held on April 29, 2024, for approval.

Larry Norman made a motion to accept the meeting minutes as presented and was seconded by Dina Favreau. The committee voted unanimously to approve.

Article 4, Spring Special Town Meeting Warrant

Petitioner Presentation

Daniel Darris O'Connor explained that the petitioners submitted the article because they believed that the Town Meeting body may not be reflective of the will of the residents. The State of Massachusetts has specific requirements for a referendum, but the Town of Billerica goes further.

He explained that the article requires a super majority, 2/3 vote, to pass the Town Meeting. It then must be approved by the Attorney General, and then go to residents for a final vote.

Response and Discussion

Committee members engaged in discussion with petition presenter and topics included the challenges of obtaining a 2/3 threshold vote, the 'small D' democratic process, and the legality of the article with the State because Town Council had not submitted an opinion.

Larry Norman made a motion to vote for the article as written and was seconded by Dina Favreau.

Committee voted to recommend Article 4 to Town Meeting 6-3 with one abstaining vote.

Adjournment

Larry Norman made a motion to adjourn the meeting as was seconded by Dina Favreau.

The meeting adjourned at 6:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laureen Knowles

