

TOWN OF CLARENDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Social Services Appropriation Policy Workshop

October 9, 2023

Minutes

Attendees:

Selectboard

Mike Klopchin, Chair
George Ambrose, Clerk
Robert Congdon
Art Menard
Cash Ruane

Heidi Congdon, Treasurer
Katie Nop, Secretary
William Chmielewski

Public that later joined:
Bob Bixby

Call to Order

Chairman Klopchin called the workshop to order at 5:24PM.

Agenda additions/deletions

N/A

Social Services Appropriation Policy discussion

Chairman Klopchin asked if anyone had any comments. Selectman Ambrose said that if the town is going to require 5% of the legal voters' signatures (about 100) on petitions, that would likely cause frustration for some organizations. Organizations with worthy causes (Visiting Nurses, for example). Selectman Menard commented that the main reason the Board is drafting a policy is because a citizen had asked about it at the last town Informational Meeting. Selectman Menard felt that as far as gathering 100 signatures, he didn't think it would be difficult for organizations with worthy causes.

Selectman Congdon said that he still stands behind the feeling that everyone should be required to submit something, every year, exempting emergency services. Selectman Ambrose said if the town goes the petition route, there won't be as many appropriations on the ballot.

Katie clarified with the Board that they are going with the "Option 2" policy that was before them. They confirmed. The Board discussed which organizations could be constituted as emergency service providers. Selectman Ambrose said the Board should list out specific organizations in the policy that would be exempt from the petition process so that it was clear. Selectman Congdon agreed.

Heidi, Treasurer, requested that somewhere in the policy it says that that the Town Clerk will turn over all the petitions to the Treasurer so she has it for budget purposes. Selectman Congdon added that verified petitions should be turned over to the Board and the agency requesting as well.

Approved October 23, 2023

The Board discussed a few other edits in the policy and wording for each.


Katie will have a final draft for the Board to review at their next meeting.

Public Comments

N/A

Adjournment

Selectman Menard motioned to adjourn at 5:55PM, Selectman Congdon seconded, and all approved.

SIGNED:  Mike Klopchin, Chair

SIGNED:  George Ambrose, Clerk