

**Town of Rochester
By-Law Review Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 4, 2024**

Committee Members Present:

Richard Cutler, Jeffrey Costa, Davis Sullivan, Chris Silveira, Mary McCann, Mark Wellington

6:00 PM Meeting Called to Order by Acting Chairman David Arancio

Present at the meeting along with each committee member, was David Arancio who was elected to be Acting Chairman for the first meeting by the Select Board and also Town Administrator Glenn Cannon.

The first meeting began with introductions by each member. Acting Chair Arancio then opened the floor for nominations for officers, beginning with Chairman of the committee. Mark Wellington nominated member Richard Cutler for chairman. Mr. Wellington also made the first motion for the nomination which was seconded by Jeffrey Costa. Motion passed unanimously 6-0. The floor was then open for nominations for Vice Chair. Mr. Cutler nominated Jeffrey Costa for the position and also made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Wellington. Motion passed unanimously 6-0. There was a brief discussion regarding the position of Clerk. Mr. Wellington suggested that Chris Silveira would be a good choice as he is part of the Planning Board and would be a great liaison. Acting Chair Arancio advised the committee that this could be left open for now as well as there was still a vacant slot on the committee. With this, Mr. Wellington inquired that since there is an even amount of members (six), what would happen if there was tied vote? Acting Chair Arancio advised that should that arise, they could petition to the Select Board to have the Town Moderator be the tie breaking vote. Mr. Cutler then nominated Chris Silveira as Clerk which was seconded by Mr. Costa. The motion passed unanimously 6-0.

Once committee officers were elected, Acting Chairman Arancio departed, handing over the remainder of the meeting to the new Chairman, Richard Cutler. The first discussion was regarding when the committee would meet. It was agreed by all members that the first Thursday of the month would be most appropriate. Therefore, the next meeting of the By-Law Review Committee would be February 1st of 2024. Mr. Cutler stated that development cannot be controlled, it can only be managed and the purpose of the by-laws is to manage that development. Discussions began about the various sections of the by-laws that would be discussed. Chairman Cutler advised that the most pressing section of the by-laws was the Agricultural/Residential district as there were certain petitions that had gone before the ZBA which demonstrated the need for the By-Law Review Committee to be created in the first place. There was also a brief discussion on districts and overlays.

Davis Sullivan made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mark Wellington. Motion passed unanimously 6-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:39 PM.