

12-29-2024 M. Arndt – Advisory and Governing Boards

"Margaret Arndt referenced her handout of 11/21/2024 on the difference between advisory and governing bodies, stating that governing bodies have the fiduciary and legal duties and responsibilities to hire and fire and make decisions regarding budgets, which currently is the role of the Board of Selectmen, in essence, the CEO of the town. The description in the Charter of the bodies in question are to advise and recommend to the **Board of Selectmen** instead, suggesting these bodies are advisory bodies. Further, if certain bodies seek to be governing bodies, do they understand their **fiduciary and legal duties and responsibilities** and will they be covered under the town's Officers and Director's liability insurance? She also indicated that any vote regarding which bodies are which without clear definitions and without clear descriptions of the scope of the roles and responsibilities of an advisory body and a governing body is premature; it puts the cart before the horse."

(This should be placed prior to the first Motion.)

Also, my statement: "Margaret Arndt noted that there should be definitions of advisory and governing in place prior to any vote." - should be placed after each Motion (in addition to the last Motion).