



COUNCIL DECISION REQUEST

SUBJECT: Systematic Review of the Town Code

MEETING DATE: June 6, 2013

SUBMITTED BY: Tim Wright 

SUBMITTAL TO AGENDA
APPROVED BY TOWN MANAGER

AMOUNT BUDGETED: n/a

EXPENDITURE REQUIRED: n/a



EXHIBITS (If Applicable, To Be Attached):

POSSIBLE MOTION I move to direct the Town Attorney, working with the Town Departments, to systematically review the Town Code and to bring to the Council any recommended amendments to ensure consistency with State Law, internal consistency with other Town Ordinances/Code sections, and efficiency of Town operations.

SUMMARY OF THE BASIS FOR POSSIBLE MOTION: The Town Code was originally adopted in 1982. In the late 1990s, the Code was renumbered into its current format. In the past 30+ years, the Code has never undergone a systematic review. This lack of a systematic review has led to several issues: (1) As shown by the recent amendments to the Trees sections, portions of the Code are not consistent with current State Law. (2) Again, as shown by the recent amendments to the Trees section, some portions are internally inconsistent with themselves, contradict other sections, or are repetitive of other sections. (3) Some Code provisions appear to have been appropriate when the Town was initially incorporated in the late 1970s, but such provisions may not be appropriate and/or may impede efficient Town operations. For example, the Code limits the number of firefighters the Town could hire without regard for the number of fire stations or the number of residents. This type of decision is probably more appropriately made during the annual budget process.

JUN 06 2013 I.I.*



COUNCIL DECISION REQUEST

Town Staff is proposing that over the next several years, each Code section would be systematically reviewed and any proposed amendments would be brought to the Council for consideration. The Town Attorney would organize the effort, but assistance from various departments depending upon the specific Code Section, would be absolutely necessary. Following review of each section, any proposed changes would be brought to Council for review.

PROS: A systematic review of the Town Code is long over due and would allow both internal inconsistencies and inconsistencies with State Law to be eliminated.

CONS: A systematic review is a time intensive process that will require substantial Staff time.

FUNDING:

Acct:	Budget:	Available:	Expense:	Remaining:
Acct:	Budget:	Available:	Expense:	Remaining:
Acct:	Budget:	Available:	Expense:	Remaining:

FM: _____ Date: _____