Town of Ipswich Appointed Committees/Boards/Commissions

February 2016

Following is a list of Town of Ipswich appointed committees/boards with a brief description for each. Vacancies for these committees/boards are advertised in local papers and on the website. To apply for any committee/board listed, an application is required, which is available in the Board of Selectmen's office or on the website. Applications will remain on file in the Board of Selectmen's office for one fiscal year (July 1st – June 30th). Unless otherwise provided, all multi-year terms are staggered.

Action, Inc. (1 Member/1 Year Term) – Board of Selectmen Appointment

Member(s) sit on a regional board of directors overseeing a non-profit human service organization which promotes economic stability for disadvantaged individuals and families in Gloucester, Essex, Ipswich, Manchester, and Rockport. Additional information is available at http://actioninc.org/.

Managed pursuant to the Action Inc. organizational charter.

Agricultural Commission (7 Members/3 Year Terms) (5 Alternates/1 Year) – Board of Selectmen Appointment Serves as facilitator for encouraging the pursuit of agriculture in Ipswich, promotes agricultural-based economic opportunities in Town, acts as mediator, advocate, and/or educator on farming issues, and pursues all initiatives appropriate to creating a sustainable agricultural community in Ipswich. Additional information can be found on the town website.

Established pursuant to Art 13, Special Town Meeting (2005)

Architectural Preservation District Commission (5 members- 3 year terms)(2 Alternates-3 year terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment

Oversee the Architectural Preservation District bylaw, initially adopted at the October 21, 2014 town meeting. "To the extent achievable, the APDC shall be comprised of the following persons: a member of the Ipswich Historical Commission; an architectural designer; a craftsperson or building contractor familiar with historic restoration; and two residents of the APD. Members and alternates of the APDC shall by reason of experience and/or education have demonstrable knowledge, interest, and ability to effectively carry out the APDC's responsibilities."

Established pursuant to Article 14, October 21, 2014 town meeting.

Athletic Playing Fields Study Committee (Seven Members/3 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointments Committee works closely with the Conservation Commission, Planning Board, Open-Space, and other committees to locate, procure, and develop usable athletic fields and sporting areas throughout the town of Ipswich.

Established by the Board of Selectmen.

Audit Committee (5 Members/ 3 Year Terms)

The Audit Committee reviews annual financial statements of the Town financial offices, coordinates with contracted independent auditors prior to the town audit, and reviews the independent auditor's recommendations and report.

Members are comprised and appointed as follows:

- 1 Board of Selectmen Member
- 1 School Committee Member
- 1 Financial Committee Member
- 2 Citizens appointed by the Board of Selectmen

Established by the Board of Selectmen

Bay Circuit Trail Committee – (3 Year Terms) - Town Manager Appointment

The trail is managed by a non-profit organization called the Bay Circuit Alliance, which relies upon local support to maintain the trails. The Bay Circuit Trail Committee represents the town of Ipswich within the Bay Circuit Trail Alliance. The Bay Circuit Trail is a series of open-space corridors which form a loop around greater Boston, from Hingham to Newburyport, and the Alliance is a non-profit organization dedicated to its preservation and use. The Ipswich Bay Circuit Committee maintains the Ipswich portion of the circuit, and coordinates/sponsors hikes and other trail related events. Committee members routinely interact with the Conservation Commission, Regional Planning Agencies, and the Department of Environmental Management in the furtherance of their objectives. Additional information is available at http://www.baycircuit.org/ or by contacting the Regional Trail Maintenance Coordinator, Dan Streeter at (978) 462-4605.

Board of Assessors (3 Members/ 3 Years) – Town Manager Appointment

The Assessors determine the valuation for all real and personal property in the Town; approve real estate and motor vehicle abatements; calculate the tax rate based upon action by Town Meeting; and report recommended annual tax rates to the Board of Selectmen.

Established by Article 10, December 17, 1962; appointed pursuant to Town Charter §13 and governed pursuant to MGL 41§25.

Board of Cemetery and Park Commissioners (3 Members/3 Year Terms) – Town Manager Appointment
The Board coordinates with the Director of Public Works and the Cemetery and Parks Superintendent to develop policies, rules, and regulations for the maintenance and use of the Town's cemeteries, parks, and open spaces. The Board interacts primarily with the Cemetery and Parks Superintendent, the Recreation Department, the Veteran's Services Office, and the local veterans groups and funeral homes.

Appointed pursuant to Town Charter §15

Board of Health (3 Members/ 3 Year Terms) – Town Manager Appointment

Members are to be appointed in January, and are responsible for policy development, administration, and oversight of health functions for the Board of Health office which maintains records of health complaints, nuisances, unusual diseases or illnesses and deaths and issues permits and licenses and coordinates health inspections.

Appointed pursuant to Town Charter § 17 and authorized by MGL 41,s. 1

Cable Advisory Committee (7 members – see organization chart below) – Board of Selectmen Appointment Committee will serve through the renewal process, and expire at the conclusion of the execution of the renewal agreements.

This committee is charged with undertaking the ascertainment and renewal process, reviewing the contracts and making recommendations to the licensing authority (Board of Selectmen) for changes. The Committee will serve through the renewal process, and expire at the conclusion of the execution of the renewal agreements.

Established and appointed by the Board of Selectmen (December 2, 2013 Meeting – appointment made February 18, 2014)

Organization: (1) Town Manager or his/her designee; (1) ICAM Member; (1) School Department Member (1) Aging Community member (3) At-Large members

Community Development Plan Implementation Task Force

Five members, three year terms

Established and appointed by the Board of Selectmen

Commuter Rail (MBTA Study) Committee (7 Members/ 1 Year Term) – Board of Selectmen Appointment Committee studies the impact of expanded MBTA passenger train services to Ipswich and the surrounding community. Additionally, committee members serve as commuter rail representatives to the town and advocate for specific commuter rail issues facing them.

Established pursuant to Art 58, Town Meeting, 1 March 1965

Conservation Commission (7 Members/ 3 Year Terms) – Town Manager Appointment/Board of Selectmen Approval The purpose of the committee is to promote and develop the natural resources of the Town, protect the wetlands and watershed areas of the Town and to permit and regulate development within wetland areas.

Established and appointed pursuant to Chapter 223 of the Acts of 1957 and MGL 40§8C

Council on Aging (7 Members/3 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment

The Council on Aging recommends policies, oversees programs for the aging, and identifies service needs of the elderly. The Council advocates for Ipswich senior citizens through the design, implement and promote programs and services that support their independence, health and well-being. Additionally, the Council manages the Ipswich Senior Center, located within the Town Hall.

First established by Article 15 of the annual town meeting March 2, 1970, pursuant to MGL Ch. 40, section 8B and later incorporated in amended form into the General bylaws as Ch XI, §12 (as adopted June 9, 1975).

Cultural Council (3 Year Terms/ 2 Term Limit) – Board of Selectmen Appointment
The purpose of the council is to promote cultural activities in the community and to facilitate and coordinate the distribution of state arts lottery funds. Additional information is available at http://www.ipswicharts.com/index.html.

Council may consist of no less than 5, but no more than 22 members. Governed pursuant to MGL 10\\$58

Design Review Board (5 Members/ 2 Alternates/ 3 Year Terms) – See organizational chart below for appointments. The Design Review Board meets on an as-needed basis to review community facility, commercial, industrial or business buildings which require Planning Board site plan review or special permit approval. The Design Review Board also meets to review any new construction, exterior alteration or expansion of buildings associated with a Great Estate Preservation Development special permit application or special permit applications for multi-family dwellings or development.

Established pursuant to Zoning By-Laws 9§K as adopted October 17, 2005, and governed by MGL 40A.

Organization: (2) Planning Board Appointments; (1) Historical Commission Appointment; (2) regular & (2) Alternate Board of Selectmen Appointments

Eight Towns and the Great Marsh Coalition Committee (formerly Eight Towns and the Bay Committee) (2 Members/ 3 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment

Members represent Ipswich on a regional committee through the Merrimac Valley Planning Commission and are responsible for the writing of grant applications in support of various environmental endeavors. Eight Towns and the Great Marsh is a committee of municipally appointed citizens dedicated to the protection of coastal waters and associated watersheds on the upper North Shore of Massachusetts Bay. The Committee works to foster stewardship of coastal resources by heightening public awareness of, and mitigating coastal water quality impacts, providing technical assistance, and developing and supporting local research and educational projects. The committee members represent nine North Shore communities: Salisbury, Amesbury, Newburyport, Newbury, Rowley, Ipswich, Essex, Gloucester and Rockport. The Committee is the upper North Shore regional representative of the Massachusetts Bays Program (MBP), and is one of five local governance committees within the Massachusetts Bays National Estuary region. Committee members meet monthly. Additional information is available at http://mvpc.org/programs/environment/eight-towns-the-bay/.

Fair Housing Committee (11 Members) – Board of Selectmen Appointment

Coordinates with town officials to ensure enforcement of anti-discrimination laws, and to ensure equal housing opportunity and choice for all.

Established by the Board of Selectman on 10 March 1980, pursuant to federal requirements, as a condition of receiving federal grant funds. Inactive at present.

Feoffees of the Grammar School in the Town of Ipswich Trust (7 Members/ 3 Year Terms) – See organizational chart below for appointments.

The Feoffees administers the Feoffees of the Grammar School in the Town of Ipswich Trust established through the sale of Little Neck properties, in conformance with the Trust Administration Order dated December 23, 2011. Further details on the appointment, duties, restrictions, and structure are detailed in the Trust Administration Order, which may be accessed via the town website (under New FEOFFEES > Legal Documents > Final Clean Trust) at http://www.town.ipswich.ma.

Organization: (2) Board of Selectmen Appointments; (2) School Committee Appointments; (2) by the Finance Committee Appointments; (1) Member appointed by the Life FEOFFEES.

Finance Committee (9 Members/3 Year Terms – Terms Expire at Annual Town Meeting) – See organizational chart below for appointments.

The Finance Committee holds hearings on the proposed Town and School budgets and makes recommendations on the Town and School budgets and all articles for Town meeting and reviews all transfers of money from the reserve fund.

Established pursuant to Town By-Laws 5§1.

Organizational Chart: (3) Town Moderator Appointments; (3) Board of Selectmen Appointments; (3) Annual Town Meeting Elections/Appointments. Vacancies by resignation are filled by the Finance Committee until the next annual town meeting when the original appointing authority makes the appointment to that position.

Hall-Haskell House Committee (5 Members/ 1 Year Terms) - Town Moderator Appointment
The committee manages the Hall-Haskell Historic House. The Hall Haskell House was designated by town meeting "as a Civic Center for promotion of the town's interests in horticulture and agriculture, architectural and historical preservation, and for providing information to visitors to Ipswich."

Established pursuant to and governed by annual Town Meeting Art 44 on 6 April 1981.

Organizational membership includes: (2) members of the Ipswich Garden Club, (2) citizens-at-large and (1) member of the Chamber of Commerce.

Historical Commission (3-to-7 Members/3 Years, plus equal number of Alternates) – Town Manager Appointment/Board of Selectmen Approval

The purpose of the Historical Commission is to preserve and protect the Town's historical artifacts and assets. The Commission may also coordinate with state and local archeologists and historians to research archeologically and/or historically significant places. Alternate members, who may be appointed up to the same number of regular members, shall serve in case of absence or inability in place of a regular member as designated by the chairman.

Established pursuant to and guided by MGL 40§8D.

Industrial Development Commission (9 Members) – Town Manager Appointment (Inactive since 1981)

Adopted at 1966 Annual Town Meeting by acceptance of MGL 40§ 8A

Ipswich Affordable Housing Board of Trustees (5 Members/2 Year Terms) – See "Organization" Below Board consists of one member of the Board of Selectmen; two members of the Ipswich Affordable Housing Partnership; the Town Manager or his designee; and one other member appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The

purpose of the board is to manage the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, providing for the creation and preservation of affordable housing in the Town of Ipswich for the benefit of low and moderate income households and in furtherance of this purpose, to acquire by gift, purchase, or otherwise, real estate and personal property, both tangible and intangible, of every sort and description.

Established via Town By-Laws 90§1 pursuant to MGL 44§55C and Chapter 1 of the Acts of 2008.

Organization: (1) Board of Selectmen Appointee; (1) Town Manager Representative; (1) Board of Selectmen Representative; (2) Ipswich Housing Partnership Representatives

Ipswich Housing Partnership (unlimited members – 3 year terms) - Town Manager Appointment
Responsibilities outlined in its creation in March 2002 by the Town Manager: review and comment on housing development; monitor enforcement of affordable housing restrictions enacted by the Town; advocate for those in the community who cannot afford to own homes in town; recommend use of the affordable housing fund; develop strategies for provision of affordable housing in town; oversee administration of first-time homebuyer program; and recommend measures to increase housing affordability in town. The Partnership established the following mission for itself on April 4, 2002: promote and assist the development of affordable housing reflecting the goals and character of the community; establish housing priorities for the town; develop criteria for evaluating affordable housing proposals; assist in the resolution of concerns regarding specific development proposals; obtain local, state and federal funding and other resources for affordable housing; and increase public awareness of the importance of developing and maintaining affordable housing as part of a strong and diverse community.

Established March 2002 by the Town Manager.

Ipswich Community Access Media (ICAM) (2 Members/ 1 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment Members represent Ipswich on a board of directors, responsible for the management and direction of ICAM. ICAM is a nonprofit organization, which provides access to existing and future communications media, including facilities, equipment, and PEG programming to the Ipswich Community. Most residents are familiar with Ipswich Public Access Television, a product of ICAM. Additional information is available via the ICAM website at http://www.icamipswich.com/index.php. ICAM established and operated as a 501 c3 organization.

Established and governed pursuant to ICAM's Governing Charter.

Ipswich River Watershed Advisory Board (1 Board of Selectmen or Designee/ 1 Year Term) Member serves as an Ipswich representative to the regional board to investigate available water resources for the district and methods of preserving and increasing such resources while conserving water supply in the member cities and towns and protecting the recreational uses and scenic and natural value of the Ipswich River. Board convenes on the first Monday in May and November, or as required.

Established and governed pursuant to Chapter 628 of the Acts of 1966, as amended by Chapter 323 of the Acts of 1981.

Library Trustees (9 Members/3 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment
The Library trustees oversee the administration of library funds, establish general policies for operation of the town library. Approves appointment/removal of Library Director (section 13 Town Charter). Additional information can be found via the library website at http://www.ipswichlibrary.org/support/library-trustees.

Established pursuant to and governed by MGL 78§10 thru 12, as approved by Town Meeting in March of 1974.

Metropolitan Area Planning Commission (MAPC) (1 Member/ 3 Year Term) – Town Manager Appointment Appointee sits on a regional planning council, which develops municipal programs and plans regarding area municipal management, sustainable land use, protection of natural resources, efficient and affordable transportation, diversified housing stock, public safety, and economic development. Additional information is available via the MAPC website at http://www.mapc.org/.

Authorized and governed pursuant to MGL 40B§24

The Town Manager may also appoint an optional coterminous alternate member for three year term.

MBTA Advisory Board (1 Representative/1 Year Term) – Board of Selectmen Chair Designee

The Advisory Board reviews the Authority's annual operating budget. In addition, the Advisory Board reviews and provides comments on the Authority's draft Capital Improvement Plans, fare increases, and services. Member shall be the Chairman of the Board or his designee, who shall be a rider as defined under Section 7A, to act for him, by filing the name of designee with the authority.

Additional information is available at http://www.mbtaadvisoryboard.org/.

Authorized and governed pursuant to MGL 161A§7A

Mosquito Control Advisory Committee (5 Members/ 3 Year Terms) – Town Manager See 1998 Administrative Manual p. 37

Open Space Committee (7 Members/ 1 Year Terms) – Town Moderator

The Open-Space Committee works with the Conservation Commission, the Recreation Committee, and the Planning Department to prepare and submit the Town's Open Space & Recreation Plan every five years (in accordance with state guidelines); and to advocate for and to fulfill open space and recreation objectives.

Established by Art 17 of Special Town Meeting in October 1992.

Planning Board (5 Members/ 5 Year Terms) (1 Associate (Non-Voting)/ 2 Year Term) – Town Manager Appointment

Conducts hearing and makes decisions on site design and permits under the town zoning by-laws and in conformance with MGL 40A; recommends zoning changes to town meeting; oversees preparation and adoption of the comprehensive plan and subdivision regulations.

Established pursuant to Article XI, Section H of the zoning bylaws; and MGL 40A, section 9. December 16, 1962. Appointed by the Town Manager pursuant to Section 13 of the Town Charter

Associate member is a non-voting member, except under specific circumstances outlined in the Ipswich Protective Zoning By-Laws.

Public Art Committee (7 members/3 year terms) – Board of Selectmen

Reviews and makes recommendations to the Board of Selectmen on the acceptance and placement of art in public places in accordance with the policy adopted by the Board on July 21, 2014. Members include: Supt. Of Cemetery and Parks, Planning Director, member of the Ipswich Cultural Commission, member of the Shade Tree and beautification Committee, and local artists. Initial citizen appointments for consecutive three year terms, thereafter for staggered three year terms.

Established by the Board of Selectmen July 21, 2014

Public Safety Facilities Committee (16 Members/3 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment Established by Board of Selectmen

Registrar of Voters (4 Members/3 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment

Registrar consists of the Town Clerk and three other appointees, with terms beginning in April. Registrars of Voters preside over Voter Registration Sessions, preside at Voter Registration challenges, certify nomination papers, comply with State and Federal election laws, and perform other duties as required under election law.

Established and governed pursuant to MGL 51§15

Recreation Committee (5 Members/3 year Terms) – Town Manager Appointment

The Recreation Committee serves in an advisory capacity to the Recreation and Culture Director and Town Manager in developing and implementing a plan to meet recreation needs of across a wide range ages and interests. The Committee is charged with working with community, civic, fraternal and social groups, such as the Ipswich YMCA

and youth sports associations, and other town departments, such as the Library and Council on Aging, to deliver recreation services.

Charge: (established by the Town Manager February 2013)

It is the charge of the Recreation Committee to serve in an advisory capacity to the Recreation and Culture Director and Town Manager in developing and implementing a plan to meet recreation needs of across a wide range ages and interests.

Recreation is defined in its broadest terms and is meant to include not only sports, but events that are cultural or educational in nature.

The Committee is charged with working with community, civic, fraternal and social groups, such as the Ipswich YMCA and youth sports associations, and other town departments, such as the Library and Council on Aging, to deliver recreation services.

Appointed pursuant to Town Charter § 14 and established pursuant to Town Meeting Art 37(March 4, 1963). Renamed pursuant to Town Meeting Art 23, on April 6th, 1981.

Recycling Committee (7 Members/ 3 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment
The purpose of the Committee is to establish and administer the Town's recycling plan and develop programs to meet the recycling needs of the community.

Established by the Board of Selectmen

Sandy Point Advisory Committee (2 Members/ 3 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment No documentation is available.

Shellfish Advisory Board (7 Members/ No Term Limits) – Board of Selectmen Appointment
The commission supports and maintains the livelihood of the Ipswich Shellfish Community, while working with the Conservation Commission and advising the Board of Selectmen on conservation measures within the various shell fishing Flats within Ipswich. Reviews and advises the Board of Selectmen on Ipswich shellfish policies, rules, and fees. Reviews and advises the Board of Selectmen on aquaculture grants. Develop open and effective communication between the Board of Selectmen, the Shellfish Constable, and the shell fishing community.

Established by the Board of Selectmen on September 8, 2008.

Organizational Chart: Voting members are (2) Board of Selectmen, (3) Commercial Clammers, (1) Recreational Clammer, & (1) Biologist. Non-voting ex officio members include the Town Manager (or designee) and the Shellfish Constable.

Shade Tree and Beautification Committee (11 Members/ 3 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment Members recommend, recognize, and implement actions that beautify and enhance the town of Ipswich and its quality of life by seeking local business support for the planting and maintaining of roadway islands, promoting appropriate planting areas and tree planting throughout the town, and organizing town-wide cleanups.

Established by the Board of Selectmen.

Stormwater Advisory Committee (12 Members/ 3 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment The Stormwater Committee was established in or around 2006 for the primary purpose of developing a local stormwater management by-law. The by-law was adopted ultimately by the fall town meeting in 2008.

Established by the Board of Selectmen

Town Government Study Committee (9 Members/ 3 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment This committee advises the Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee, and other Town Officials on matters of policy and practice as they relate to the Town of Ipswich. Specifically, this committee has authored an Administrative Manual (1998) and several policy review studies concerning various aspects of the Town's structure and governance.

Established under Article 17, December 17, 1962 town meeting

Trust Fund Commissioners (3 Members/3 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment

The Trust Fund Commissioners manage and control all town trust funds which are not otherwise under the custody of the Board of Cemetery and Park Commissioners, the Affordable Housing Trustees, the Board of the FEOFFEES Trustees, and the Board of Library Trustees. In so doing, they direct and advise the Town Treasurer in the investment and expenditure of said funds. Additionally, the Trust Fund Commissioners are required to submit annual reports, via Annual Town Meeting, regarding the status and/or bequest of all public funds within their control.

Appointed pursuant to Town Charter § 3: established pursuant to general bylaws Ch. 10 (Approved October 17, 1994 at the Special Town Meeting); and MGL 41§45.

Utilities Sub-Committees (Electric, Water, and Waste-Water) (5 Members EACH/3 Year Terms EACH) – Review below for appointing authorities.

The three standing utility sub-committees each serve in an advisory capacity to the Board of Selectmen, which serves as the Electric, Water, and Sewer Commissions (pursuant to Chap 533 of the Acts of 1965 and Art 53 of Special Town Meeting dtd 15 March 1966). Additional information concerning these sub-committees can be found at http://www.ipswichutilities.org/default.aspx?page=SUBCOMMITTEES.

Organizational Charter: Each of the three sub-committees consist of five voting members of whom two are commissioners (Selectmen); two are citizens (appointed by the Selectmen); and one is a representative from the Town's Finance Committee.

Established by the Board of Selectmen

Youth Commission – Town Manager Appointment

Established by Article 17, March 2, 1970 Annual town meeting pursuant to MGL Ch. 40, section 8E

Waterways Advisory Committee (7 Members/ 3 Year Terms) – Town Manager

The purpose of the Waterways Advisory Committee is to provide an advisory body representing the users of Ipswich's waterways and public waterfront facilities as broadly as possible. The Waterways Advisory Committee shall be the Town body which recommends policies and regulations for Ipswich's waterways. In cooperation with the Board of Selectmen, the Town Manager, the Harbormaster and other Town staff, the Committee is intended to ensure that Ipswich waterways are well planned and maintained, utilized to the maximum extent possible, safe, and reflect positively upon the Town of Ipswich. The Waterways Advisory Committee has no authority to decide or implement regulations or policies or manage town funds.

Original committee established pursuant to Board of Selectmen's meeting dated 5 April 1965. Reactivated at request of Town Meeting 1966. Updated to 7 members at August 5, 2015 Board of Selectmen meeting. Pursuant to guidance from the Government Study Committee, based on Section 20 of the Town Charter, the Ipswich Waterways Committee as a new committee to be appointed by the Town Manager on February 4, 2016.

Organizational chart: (1) member of the Ipswich Bay Yacht Club (IBYC); (1) member of the Ipswich Outboard Club (IOC); (1) Commercial Fisherman; (1) non-motorized vessel owner not affiliated with the IBYC, IOC, or the commercial fishing industry; (3) residents not affiliated with the IBYC, IOC, or the commercial fishing industry and who need not be involved with any marine related activity.

Zoning Board of Appeals (5 Regular Members/5 Year Terms) (2 Associate Members (Non-Voting)/ 3 Year Terms) – Board of Selectmen Appointment

The Zoning Board of Appeals serves two functions. First, they are empowered to issue special permits and variances. Second, the ZBA is the appellate board for zoning enforcement actions issued by the zoning enforcement officer. Additional information regarding this board may be found at

http://www.town.ipswich.ma.us/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&id=92&Itemid=418.

Established pursuant to Zoning By-Laws 11§F and appointed pursuant to Town Charter§3.