

MINUTES
Special Meeting
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
May 2, 2018

PRESENT: Chairman Dennis Donovan, Commissioners Art Kuever, Lise Gazzillo, Mary Jo Phelps, Eric Bergman and Michael Knudsen

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of April 25, 2018:

- A motion was made by MJ. Phelps, seconded by L. Gazzillo to approve the minutes of April 25, 2018 as submitted. The motion carried with a vote of 4 in favor and 2 abstentions (A. Kuever and M. Knudsen).

Review Town Charter Recommendations:

- A motion was made by M. Knudsen, seconded by L. Gazzillo to rescind the motion made on April 4, 2018 on Section 8-7 Fire Marshal; Deputies and leave section as written in the current charter (add "to serve a four (4) year term." and "for the same term."). The motion carried unanimously.
- The commissioners are waiting to hear from Attorney Bennet regarding some questions brought up at the last meeting.

Town Manager discussion and recommended charter changes:

Section 1-2 - Rights and Obligations:

- Change Board of Selectmen to Town Council
- The Town Manager should be the Town Manager

Section 3-2 - Vacancies:

- A. Change Board of Selectmen to Town Council
- C. Change Board of Selectmen to Town Council

Section 3-3 - Board of Selectmen:

- Change Board of Selectmen to Town Council
- Change five (5) members to seven (7) members
- The entire section now reads: "At each regular Town election there shall be elected seven (7) members."
- The second paragraph is removed

Section 3-6 - Board of Finance:

- Remove this entire section

Section 3-7 – Board of Finance Alternates:

- Remove this entire section

Section 4-2 – Procedure; Moderator:

- Change First Selectman to Chairman of the Council
- First line should read "All Town Meetings shall be called to order by the Chairman of the Town Council or the Vice Chairman of the Town Council."

Section 4-3 – Annual Town Meeting:

- Change Selectmen to Town Council

Section 4-4 – Annual Budget Meeting:

- Change Board of Selectmen to Town Council

Section 4-4B – Annual Budget Meeting:

- Should read "Should either budget section fail to be approved by a majority of those voting thereon, the Town Manager and/or the Board of Education shall forthwith revise estimated expenditures, without altering estimates of revenue except for omissions, clerical errors, or revisions of revenue to be received from the state, to arrive at revised spending levels and automatically submit the revised budget section(s) to referendum 14 days following the date the initial budget referendum was defeated. The Town Council will review the revised budget and shall hold at least one (1) public hearing....."

Section 4-5 – Special Town Meeting Actions:

- Change Board of Selectmen to Town Council
- Section should read “Special Town Meetings shall be required for approval by vote after recommendation by the Town Council.”

Section 4-5B

- Change Board of Selectmen to Town Council

Section 4-6 – Appropriations or Other Actions Requiring Referendum:

- A: Change Board of Selectmen to Town Council

Section 4-7 – Petition for Overture:

- Change Board of Selectmen to Town Council in three locations in this paragraph
- A: Change Board of Selectmen to Town Council
- B: Change Board of Selectmen to Town Council

Section 4-8 – Petition for Special Town Meeting; Initiative:

- C: Change Board of Selectmen to Town Council

Section 7-6 – Three Year Terms:

- B: For Youth and Family Services – this section should be consistent with the ordinance.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy McDermott
Clerk