

MEETING OF THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

PUBLIC HEARING

JUNE 21, 2022

A Meeting of the Charter Revision Commission was held on June 7, 2022 at the Bristol Public Library, 5 High Street, Bristol, CT. Members present: Chairman Jon Fitzgerald, Vice Chairman Calvin Brown, Michele Roalf, John Lafreniere and Richard Carter. Absent: Commissioner Daniel Micari and Melanie McKinley

Also Present: Thomas Conlin, and Jason Welch from City of Bristol Corporation Counsel.

1. Call to order.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Jon Fitzgerald.

2. Introduction of Commissioners.

3. Receive public comments on the proposed draft report:

- a. Sections 20, 40 and 51 – Increase the city council from 6 to 9 members (from 2 to 3 per district) with multiparty representation and increase the board of finance membership from eight to eleven members.
- b. Technical and/or non-substantive revisions to sections 6, 11, 18, 21, 33, 39, 41, 49, 55, 57, 58, 59, 63 and 64 (consistency in capitalization of “mayor” and “city council”, and terminology in use of “council”, “councilor” and “city council”).
- c. Section 12 – change the method of creating council districts to the registrars of voters from the public process of the charter revision commission.
- d. Section 9 – expand the types of and penalties for misconduct by elected or appointed officials.
- e. Sections 20, 38 and 68 – change the 2-year term for the office of mayor to a 4-year term.

Chairman Jon Fitzgerald discussed two emails he received regarding mayors term, see attached.

No further public participation.

4. To close the public hearing and adjourn.

At 7:02 p.m. a motion was made by Commissioner Brown and seconded by Commissioner Roalf and it was unanimously voted: to “Adjourn.”

Respectfully Submitted
Genesis Ojeda
Recording Secretary

Mayor's terms

From: Rick Kriscenski (rkriscenski@sbcglobal.net)

To: jfitzgerald01@snet.net

Date: Sunday, June 19, 2022 at 08:04 PM EDT

Dear Mr. Fitzgerald,

The mayor said that the 4 year mayor term would put Bristol in line with other large cities in CT but based on my survey that doesn't seem to be the case.

I called each city and I did a survey of the mayor's term of the largest cities in CT:

Bridgeport pop 145k - 4 years.

New Haven pop 130k - 2 years.

Stamford pop 130k - 4 years.

Hartford pop 123k 4 years.

Norwalk pop 88k - 2 years.

Danbury pop 85k - 2 years.

New Britain pop 73k - 2 years.

West Hartford - pop 63k - 2 years - not directly voted.

Greenwich pop - 63k - 2 years (First Selectman),

Fairfield pop 62k - 4 years.

Hamden - pop 61k - 2 years, charter revision may change to 4 if approved

Meriden pop 60k - 2 years.

Manchester pop 60k - 2 years.

Manchester pop 58k - 2 years.

Bristol has a pop of 60k.

Only 4 cities on this list currently has a mayor whose term is 4 years.

According to the CT Conference of Municipalities only 29 of 169 jurisdictions have a Mayor or First Selectman who serves a 4 year term.

How does his statement validate the need for Bristol to change its charter to a 4 year term for mayor?

Sincerely,

Rick KriscenSki

Sent from my iPhone

Tuesday June 21 Meeting input please

* From: Jan Gyurko (jgyurko@mac.com)
* To: jfitzgerald01@snet.net, jonfitzgerald.esq@gmail.com
Date: Sunday, June 19, 2022 at 09:39 AM EDT

Good morning Jon,

I am out of state but would like to again give input for the Charter Revision committee meeting.

Jan Gyurko
88 Fern Hill Rd

I am in favor of a 4 year term for Mayor for Bristol. A mayor is able to get a tremendous amount of work done if given the time. Two years is not enough. Four years would follow suit with other governmental structures such as governor. The time and effort of campaigning for reelection for another two year term could be better spent on working for the town.

If the mayor is not doing what the people want or expected they can vote and change the town council in two years. The option for recall has not been used in 111 years so it seems to be irrelevant.

Thank you.

Jan Gyurko
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