

Minutes of the Charter Revision Commission's
Regular Meeting of February 9, 2021

1. **Call to order.**

Chair Jon FitzGerald called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and read the call of the meeting.

2. **Introduction of Commissioners**

The commissioners introduced themselves. Present were: Jon FitzGerald, Laurie Scotti (virtually), Roman Czuchta, John Krampitz, Richard Carter and Kim Ploszaj (virtually).

Absent: John Lafreniere

3. **Discuss and approve the minutes of the public meeting held on January 20, 2021 and take any action as necessary.**

On motion by Commissioner Krampitz and seconded by Commissioner Carter, it was unanimously voted: to approve the minutes.

4. **Public participation regarding revisions to the Charter.**

None.

5. **Discussion of possible revisions to the charter to recommend changing the term of the office of the mayor from a two-year term to a four-year term and take any action as necessary.**

Commissioner Krampitz thought it was a good idea to put this item on the ballot. Commissioner Czuchta questioned whether how it would impact other parts of the charter, specifically the recall section and the recall of elected officials other than the Mayor. Attorney Conlin will do some research on this for the next meeting.

No recommendations at this time. No votes taken.

6. **Discussion of possible revisions to the charter to renumber the sections and to take any action as necessary.**

Chairman Fitzgerald stated that the Charter, as written, was disorganized so he went through and renumbered it so it is organized and user friendly. No changes to the wording were made.

Commissioner Czuchta had some concerns about having too many questions on the ballot and the desire to reserve many of the agenda items with a recommendation in the Commission Report that a consultant review the entire charter.

On motion by Commissioner Czuchta and seconded by Commissioner Carter, it was voted to recommend to approve renumbering the Charter.

7. Discussion of possible revisions to charter section 17 (City clerk, town clerk duties) as suggested by the town clerk and take any action as necessary.

On motion by Commissioner Krampitz and seconded by Commissioner Czuchta, it was voted to make no recommendations at this time.

8. Discussion of possible revisions to charter section 25 (Board of Finance) and take any action as necessary.

Diane Waldron, Comptroller stated that the changes she made to this section were to clean it up. Most of the language in this section is already contained in policies and job descriptions.

On motion by Commissioner Czuchta and seconded by Commissioner Krampitz, it was unanimously voted: to make no recommendations at this time.

9. Discussion of possible revisions to charter section 35(c) and take any action as necessary.

On motion by Commissioner Czuchta and seconded by Commissioner Carter, it was unanimously voted: to recommend to remove this item from the agenda.

10. Discussion of possible revisions to charter section 42 (fire department, regulation of promotion) and take any action as necessary.

On motion by Commissioner Czuchta and seconded by Commissioner Carter, it was unanimously voted: to make no recommendations at this time.

11. Discussion of possible revisions to charter section 43 (Department of parks and recreation) and take any action as necessary.

Superintendent of Parks, Josh Maderios addressed the Committee stating that the changes he was making to this section were to clarify the role of the Superintendent and adding the role of the Deputy Superintendent.

On motion by Commissioner Krampitz and seconded by Commissioner Czuchta, it was unanimously voted: to make no recommendations at this time.

12. Discussion of possible revisions to charter section 45 (Police department and board of police commissioners), 46A (Police department – Merit system) and 46B (Chief of police) and take any action as necessary.

On motion by Commissioner Krampitz and seconded by Commissioner Czuchta, it was unanimously voted: to make no recommendations at this time.

13. Discussion of possible revisions to charter sections 54 (Personnel Committee. Director of human resources) and take any action as necessary.

On motion by Commissioner Czuchta and seconded by Commissioner Carter, it was unanimously voted: to make no recommendations at this time.

14. Discussion of possible revisions to charter section 9 and take any action as necessary.

On motion by Commissioner Czuchta and seconded by Commissioner Carter, it was unanimously voted: to recommend to keep item #14 on the agenda for the next meeting.

15. Discussion of possible revisions to charter sections 9, 21(g), 25(k), 43(m) and 48A(j) and take any action as necessary.

On motion by Commissioner Czuchta and seconded by Commissioner Krampitz, it was unanimously voted: to recommend to take item #15 off the agenda.

16. Discuss comments and potential topics for charter revision raised during public participation and take any action as necessary.

None.

17. Discuss the charter and proposed charter revisions raised by the commissioners of the charter revision commission and to take any action as necessary.

None.

18. Discuss meeting dates and agendas and take any action as necessary.

The next meeting will be on February 23, 2021 at 7:00 in the Staff Lounge.

19. Old Business

None.

20. New Business

None.

21. Adjourn

At 7:54 PM, on motion by Commissioner Krampitz and seconded by Commissioner Carter, it was unanimously voted: to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted:
Noelle Bates
Recording Secretary