

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN SPECIAL MEETING**

**Tuesday, July 5, 2022**

**2:30 pm**

**Via Webex and In Person in the**

**1<sup>st</sup> Floor Conference Room, Independence Hall  
725 Old Post Road, Fairfield, CT**

A recording of this meeting can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxmJZgYZGn0>.

**FINAL MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** First Selectwoman Brenda L. Kupchick, Selectman Thomas M. Flynn, Selectwoman Nancy E. Lefkowitz

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Attorney Steven Mednick, Town Attorney James Baldwin, CRC Chair Bryan Cafferelli, CRC Vice-Chair Christopher Brogan, Commissioner Marlene Battista, Commissioner Pamela Iacono, Commissioner John Wynne, CAO Tom Bremer, FairTV, members of the public

1) **CALL TO ORDER**

First Selectwoman Kupchick called the meeting to order at 2:40 pm.

2) **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

First Selectwoman Kupchick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3) **TO PROPOSE, REVIEW AND ACT UPON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
RECOMMENDATIONS OF ITEMS AND ISSUES FOR FURTHER  
CONSIDERATION BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

First Selectwoman Kupchick acknowledged the public comment at last week's meeting. She asked if any of the CRC Commissioners wanted to share comments. Commissioner Pamela Iacono said she had sent a memo to the BOS and CRC to answer Selectman Flynn's question about why the CRC recommends a reduction in the RTM (Articles II & III). Commissioner Iacono also wanted to address comments from the public that the CRC did not prove its point for the reduction so Ms. Iacono read aloud from her six-page memo. Before reading her document, she referred to the Model City Charter and said she used that document as backup since it has been in existence since 1884 and it is still used today.

Commissioner John Wynne also read aloud his comments regarding the proposal to reduce the RTM from 40 to 30 members and said the Commission did not reduce the number of districts.

Selectwoman Lefkowitz thanked them for their work and said Commissioner Wynne was also on the Strategic Planning Committee and felt he carried his ideas over to the CRC. She also said Mr. Wynne's thoughts had given her things to think about. First Selectwoman Kupchick said at the last meeting Selectwoman Lefkowitz had many questions, but has since met with Town Attorney James Baldwin to go through those

questions. Selectman Flynn said he met with both Attorneys Baldwin and Mednick. Selectwoman Lefkowitz said she will meet with Attorney Baldwin again along with a few members of the public and stated that she is not ready to vote on the recommendations at this time.

The BOS went through the proposed Charter and made recommendations to send back to the CRC. All the changes and details can be accessed in the link to the recording above.

There was a discussion about the dates for the process and the process itself. Attorney Baldwin reviewed the remaining timeline for the BOS process for the CRC recommendations. Attorney Steven Mednick said he and Attorney Baldwin went through the whole document and revised the redline in detail. (The public can refer to the recording for the complete review and discussion by the BOS.)

Attorney Baldwin said the definitions of Ordinances should be looked at and can be easily rectified by the CRC. He said there was one item in particular regarding public elected officials and whether to include or exclude RTM members. The BOS also reviewed the following items: Table of Contents, use of contracts and BOE, Standard of Conduct language, Ordinance language, Rules of Civility, and the suggestion to include an Equity clause.

There was a discussion about the position of the Town Administrator (Article IV) and how that person was appointed. The BOS agreed that this position should not be political. Selectman Flynn thought the First Selectperson should be able to appoint the Town Administrator and suggested the duties be more specific for the Town Administrator and the Chief of Staff. He said they should have more interaction with the Selectpersons. Selectwoman Lefkowitz thought a full body confirmation with the RTM would take the politicization out of the Town Administrator role. There was a discussion with the CRC about the job description and the title of this role which is referred to by State Statute and the Model City Charter as Chief Administrative Officer.

After having an informal break, the BOS and Attorney Mednick continued through the remaining articles (refer to the recording for details). The review stopped at Article IX-Budget.

The BOS discussed holding additional meetings on July 11 and 12. Dates and times will be posted once they are confirmed.

4) **ADJOURN**

Selectman Flynn made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 pm. Selectwoman Lefkowitz seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien  
Recording Secretary