

CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

Special Meeting

May 11, 2022

7:00 PM

Via Webex

A recording of this meeting can be found here: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yjM\\_hBM\\_edI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yjM_hBM_edI)

AGENDA

Members Present: Chair Bryan Cafferelli, Vice Chair Chris Brogan, Secretary Marlene Battista (7:40pm), Pamela Iacono (7:33pm), John Mitola, John Wynne

Others Present: Attorney Steven Mednick, Town Attorney James Baldwin, FairTV, members of the public.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Bryan Cafferelli called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Recording Secretary Pru O'Brien took the Roll.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Bryan Cafferelli led the Pledge of Allegiance

IV. **Meeting Topics:**

I. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Sarah Matthews-RTC Chairwoman- concerned about politicization of the work being done by others and Ms. Matthews thanked the Charter Revision Commission for all their hard work.
- William Gerber-Concerned about minimum representation RTM by district. Shifts representation by party. Requires more analysis. He sent an email to the CRC which is included in the email docs backup.

There was a discussion about minority representation and whether or not it took the choice away from voters.

II. Further discussion: Revised Action Item #3: Articles II – VII

Attorney Mednick asked the Commission to review Action Item 3 thoroughly for content to be sure he hasn't lost anything that's been discussed while revising the document. Meeting Notice definitions will be in one spot. There will be one standard of notice permitted and the Town Clerk Betsy Browne Miller will choose which one. Newspaper notices will still be included but they won't be needed as often as before. Attorney began his review of revised Action Item #3.

III. Further discussion Revised Action Item #1 Budget

The proposed Budget Process was reviewed. The concept was to start the process in March and have joint meetings. The BOS would then present their approved budget to the BOF who would present their budget, once approved, to the RTM.

- IV. Further discussion Meeting Topic IV – Proposed Action Item #4 (Articles VIII and IX) meeting)
- Police Chief residency
  - Department Issues
  - Qualifications
  - Term of Office and “For Cause” standard
  - Town Attorney/Assistant Town Attorney
  - DPW/WPCA Alignment
  - Police, Fire, Conservation and Tax

Attorney Mednick reviewed Action Item #4. There was a discussion about Police Chief residency and whether or not to make limits on the distance from Fairfield as to response time in emergencies and should the decision be left to the Police Commission. Connecticut residency is mandatory.

There were other issues brought up for Action Item #4 and Appointed Officers and Boards & Commissions. Attorney Mednick will try to resolve issues that were brought up.

There will need to be another public hearing scheduled as well as at least one additional meeting for the Commission after the 5/12/22 meeting. The goal is to present the revised Charter to the BOS at their June 6, 2022 meeting.

V. Adjourn

Vice Chair Chris Brogan made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner John Wynne seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O’Brien  
Recording Secretary