

CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

Regular Meeting

May 12, 2022

7:00 PM

Via Webex

A recording of this meeting can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-oFG4m7ME>

DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Bryan Cafferelli-Chair, Chris Brogan-Vice Chair, Marlene Battista-Secretary, Pamela Iacono, John Mitola, John Wynne

Members Absent: Jay Gross

Others Present: Attorney Steven Mednick, Town Attorney James Baldwin, FairTV

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Bryan Cafferelli called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Recording Secretary Pru O'Brien took the roll.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Bryan Cafferelli led the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. Approval of Minutes from March 24th, April 4th, April 14th Meetings

Commissioner John Wynne made a motion to approve the minutes from 3/24/22, 4/4/22, and 4/14/22.

Commissioner Pamela Iacono seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

V. Meeting Topics:

I. Complete work on Action Items #1,3 & 4

Action Items were reviewed and discussed. Additions and changes were discussed and some modifications were made based on general comments by the public, departments heads and boards, committee and commission members. There was a request from the Flood and Erosion Control Board Chair, Becky Bunnell to change the name of the FECB to Flood Prevention Climate Resilience and Erosion Control Board abbreviated as FERB. Elected commissions will remain in the Charter as well as boards and commissions mandated by the Charter and adopted by ordinance. Commissioner Wynne commented that better civil discourse should be expected by Town officials and wondered if other towns had tried to develop ethical standards. Attorney Mednick said most legislative bodies have rules of conduct and civility. Commissioner Mitola commented that Robert's Rules also has rules of discourse. A discussion followed.

II. Board of Education

Minority Representation for the BOE was discussed. It would end the 5/4 split and could create 6/3 split.

III. Cooperation Provision

A Cooperation Provision was approved in X.1 of the budget. It was suggested that there should be a general cooperation provision in Article VII. Attorney Mednick will draft language.

IV. Uniform Creation Standards

Attorney Mednick has provisions he can put together that detail how to create a commission or board. It won't necessarily need to be in the Charter but it works well.

V. Specific Board and Commission Issues

There was a discussion about terms and how long they should be and staggering term dates.

VI. Remainder of the schedule

This item was actually taken first without objection from the Commission. Attorney Mednick proposed to have two Commission meetings and one Public Hearing. Dates decided for those meetings:

- Tuesday 5/17/22 4:30pm-6:30pm
- Wednesday 5/25/22 7:00pm
- Thursday 6/2/22 7:00pm – Public Hearing (in-person location TBD)

Attorney Mednick will need to address the budget email from BOF Chair, Lori Charlton at the next meeting.

VI. Next Steps

Attorney Mednick will send changes from the last two meetings to Town Attorney Baldwin. Reaction to BOF Chair Lori Charlton's email regarding the budget process will be discussed at the next meeting. Commissioner Mitola suggested waiting for the public hearing.

Chair Cafferelli suggested starting the next meeting with the Library and the suggested changes to the Charter.

VII. Adjourn

Commissioner Iacono made a motion to adjourn. Secretary Marlene Battista seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Pru O'Brien
Recording Secretary