

Minutes, Charter Commission Meeting, 9 September 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7 PM by Vice-Chair Jill Goldthwait. Present were Julie Berberian, Joseph Cough, Jill Goldthwait, Michael Gurtler via telephone, Peter St. Germain, Patricia Samuel, Christopher Strout. Not present, excused: Anna Durand, Martha Searchfield.

1. It was moved and seconded (P. St. Germain, J. Cough) to adopt the agenda as distributed. Motion passed unanimously.

2. It was moved and seconded (P. St. Germain, C. Strout) to adopt the minutes of the August 19, 2019 meeting as distributed. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment Period. As no-one wished to speak, the Public Comment Period was closed.

4. Items for Discussion.

a. Review of working DRAFT of revised charter, identifying all items with consensus agreement

\* J. Goldthwait explained the process for possible referendum on Land Use Ordinance amendments passed by super-majorities of both Planning Board (e.g. 4 “Yeas” out of 5 total members) and Town Council (5 “Yeas” out of 7 total members).

- Article I: no change

- Article II: C-5, Annual and Special Town Meeting, (3) Method of voting at Open Town Meeting: “transparency” limited to accuracy of voting only, transparency of the numerical tabulation totals; language would be (J. Cough), “act on those ordinances placed on the Warrant or Initiative or Referendum questions

- C-5, (2) (e) : change for clarification: substitute “...*in the form of* the number of Councilors...” for “*including* the number of Councilors...”

- C-6, Powers and Responsibilities, B (3): substitute for clarification: “Act on those ordinances placed on the Warrant and any initiative or referendum questions as provided for by this Charter.”

- Article III: C-10, A 5 : Strike

- C-10 A (9), first sentence requires clarifying language regarding land use

- C-14, C (2): language clarification regarding conflict of interest, adopted

- C-14 C (3): needs language clarification.

- C- 31 Preparation and submission of the budget., A: New language used to reflect the need for a revised timetable;

-C-31 A. first sentence: substitute “...according to the Manager’s timeline” for “...in a timely manner...”

- C-31 C. Town Council and Warrant Committee receive proposed municipal budget at a joint meeting; joint meetings with town staff as well

-C-31 D. Warrant Com. and Town Council each review municipal budget independently; Warrant Com. submits its municipal budget recommendations to Council at a joint meeting; Town Council reviews the school budget and recommendations of Warrant Com.

Article VII, C-34 A and C: to be resolved at the next meeting, September 23, 2019

Meeting adjourned at 9.08 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia L. Samuel, Secretary