



Chester Charter Commission
Meeting Minutes

Charter Commission Meeting
April 23, 2024 – 6:30 PM
Location: Chester Town Hall First Floor Meeting Room

CALL TO ORDER

The 4/23/24 Charter Commission meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Richard Strauss, Chairman, Chester Charter Commission. In attendance included: Commission members; Brian Dailey, Richard Strauss, Mark Borton with Ian McLachlan and Lol Fearon present on the phone. Absent was Pat Holloway and Jesse Gnazzo. There was an Audience of Citizens of 0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the 4/8/24 Charter Commission Meeting. There was no discussion, the minutes were approved unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF BOARD OF SELECTMEN RECOMMENDATION FOR ADDITIONAL CHANGES TO THE DRAFT REPORT PROPOSED DRAFT CHARTER

The Commission discussed the section of the Board of Selectmen's recommendation for additional changes to the Draft Report/Proposed Draft Charter: *(In addition to the noted "Corrections", the Commission should consider any other "Corrections" as needed)*. The corrections for consideration were identified by the Commission, and Attorney Roberts' final review of the Board of Selectmen's recommendations approved by the Commission at its 4/8/24 meeting. A list including the Board of Selectmen Recommendations for Changes approved at the 4/8/24 Charter Commission Meeting and the additional changes to be considered for approval by the Charter Commission at its 4/23/24 meeting is attached.

MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE CHARTER COMMISSION

1. A motion was motion was made by Ian and seconded by Brian to accept the following corrections to the Proposed Draft Charter, in addition to the corrections approved by the Commission at its 4/8/24 meeting based on final review the Board of Selectmen's recommendations by the Commission and Town Attorney Richard Roberts:
 1. Cover Page: Attorney Roberts Correction: Insert Adopted Date "2024" at this time – Updates 4/8/24 "Addition" indicating to add adoption date upon adoption by Referendum

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2. Notice Page: For "Notice" - Insert date Proposed Charter presented to the Board of Selectmen – "May 1, 2024; For "Resolution: - insert "May 1" and upon Board of Selectmen adopting the "Resolution" - insert adoption date.
3. Article 3: Section 3.3(b)(1): Attorney Roberts correction recommendation – DELETED *"Except when competitive bidding is required by Section 11.6 of Article 11 of this Charter,"* – In process of editing Section 11.6 reference to competitive bidding was deleted – therefore the referenced clause in Section 3.3 was deleted as there is no cross reference included in Section 11.6.
4. Article 5: Section 5.5: Attorney Roberts Correction: "and or" changed to "and/or"
5. Article 7: Section 7.2: Attorney Roberts Correction: "officers" changed to "Officers"
6. Article 8: Section 8.3: Attorney Roberts Correction: "Section 8.5" changed to "Section 8-5"
7. Article 8: Section 8.5: Attorney Roberts Correction: ADDED "are" - "providing there funds within" changed to "providing there are funds within"
8. Article 9: Section 9.2: Attorney Roberts Correction: DELETED - extra blank space – changed "Board which" to "Board which"
9. Article 9: Section 9.7: Attorney Roberts Correction: "charter" changed to "Charter"
10. Article 9: Section 9.11(d): Attorney Roberts Correction: DELETED - "will" - changed "continuously will until" to "continuously until"
11. Article 11.6: changed "Board" to "Agency"

There was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. A motion was made by Lol and seconded by Mark to send the amended Final Report/Proposed Charter incorporating the changes/corrections approved by the Charter Commission at its meetings of 4/8/24 and 4/23/24 to the Board of Selectmen no later than May 5, 2024.

There was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

3. A motion was made by Brian and seconded by Mark to send the Charter Transition Planning Memo to the Board of Selectmen for their consideration. There was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

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OTHER

It was noted that the Chester Charter Commission upon vote of the Board of Selectmen to accept or reject the Final Report/Proposed Charter shall be terminated.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mark and seconded by Ian to approve these 4/23/24 Charter Commission Meeting minutes. There was no discussion, the minutes were approved unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM

Respectfully Submitted by: Brian Dailey, Secretary, Chester Charter Commission