



# TOWN OF NORTON CHARTER COMMISSION

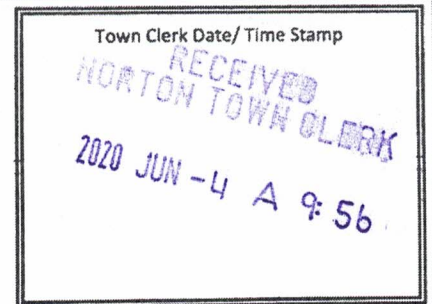
Monday, April 6, 2020  
7:00 P.M.

**Remote Participation Only (Public Welcome)**

**Join URL:** <https://zoom.us/j/511579746>

**Join via Phone only:** 929-205-6099 US

**Meeting ID:** 511-579-746



## ~MINUTES~

**1. Call to Order: Roll Call, Ask / Announce Recording, Pledge of Allegiance**

The April 6, 2020 meeting of the Charter Commission was called to order at 7:00 PM, by Ms. Laura Parker, Chair.

Members Participating Remotely: Ms. Janey Goodwin, Mr. Dave Heaney, Ms. Denise Luciano, Ms. Sandy Ollerhead, Mr. Kevin Schleicher, Mr. Keith Silver, Ms. Kerry Snyder, and Mr. David Wrenn.

**2. Acceptance of prior meeting minutes**

Motion was made by Ms. Snyder to accept the minutes of March 23, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Heaney. Vote: Ms. Goodwin - yes; Mr. Heaney - yes; Ms. Luciano - yes; Ms. Ollerhead - yes; Ms. Parker - yes; Mr. Schleicher - abstain; Mr. Silver - yes; Ms. Snyder - yes; Mr. Wrenn - yes. MOTION CARRIES.

**3. Discussion of administrative items, if any**

The meeting on April 13th will be moved back to April 20th. Lauren Goldberg will have the draft charter to the commission by the end of the week. Ms. Ollerhead was in touch with Senator Feeney to see whether an extension on Charter Commission deadlines would be possible.

**4. Public Comment – Open forum**

No members of the public wished to speak.

**5. Discussion and potential vote(s) of Charter elements: Financial / Fiscal Provisions**

Ms. Parker provided an outline of the budget timeline for the towns of Amherst and North Attleboro and compared this to the process in Norton. She asked the commission for opinions on whether a Capital Improvements Committee should be outlined in the charter. Ms. Snyder suggested leaving it up to the new government to decide whether this committee was needed as well as to determine who would sit on the committee. Mr. Silver felt that the process of having the department heads all meeting with the Town Manager and the Capital Improvements Committee was valuable. Mr. Schleicher suggested including mention of the Capital Improvements Committee in the charter but not outline exactly who needed to be part of that committee.

Ms. Luciano would like to require a one-page overview of the significant changes in the budget in the charter. Mr. Silver would like to require a public meeting that includes the school department to present the budget. Mr. Wrenn suggested including a five-year financial plan as a requirement.

Ms. Ollerhead suggested starting with the North Attleboro charter and modifying it to fit Norton's needs. Ms. Parker went through the specifics of North Attleboro's process and timeline. She suggested that everyone review this further on their own and come back with recommendations for any edits that would be necessary for Norton.

**6. Education and public outreach discussion**

Ms. Ollerhead suggested having subgroups of the commission attend the meetings of each of the boards and committees to give an overview of the draft charter. Ms. Goodwin suggested also inviting committee members to attend one of the meetings of the Charter Commission for this same purpose.

**7. Next Meeting: April 20, 2020 via Remote Participation only**

**8. Adjournment**

Motion was made by Mr. Heaney to adjourn the Charter Commission meeting at 8:18 PM. Seconded by Ms. Snyder. Vote: Unanimous.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Diana M Ollerhead

Minutes approved by the Board or Committee on: 4/20/20

Chairman Signature: James L Parker