



TOWN OF NORTON CHARTER COMMISSION

Monday, June 25, 2020
7:00 P.M.

Town Clerk Date/ Time Stamp

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
2020 OCT 19 A 8:21

Remote Participation Only (Public Welcome):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84514341223?pwd=SERFWXhtQlFsVDgzc0ZFMnFKNUw0QT09>

Join via Phone (one tap mobile):

+19292056099,,84514341223#,,,0#,,098017# US

Meeting ID: 845 1434 1223

~MINUTES~

1. Call to Order: Roll Call, Ask / Announce Recording

The June 25, 2020 meeting of the Charter Commission was called to order at 7:06 PM, by Ms. Laura Parker, Chair.

Members Present: Mr. Dave Heaney, Ms. Sandy Ollerhead, Mr. Keith Silver, and Mr. David Wrenn.

Ms. Denise Luciano arrived at 7:10 PM

Members Absent: Ms. Janey Goodwin, Mr. Kevin Schleicher and Ms. Kerry Snyder

2. Acceptance of prior meeting minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Wrenn to accept the minutes of June 15, 2020. Seconded by Mr. Heaney. Vote: Mr. Heaney - yes; Ms. Ollerhead - yes; Ms. Parker - yes; Mr. Silver - yes; Mr. Wrenn - yes. MOTION CARRIES.

3. Discussion of administrative items, if any

Ms. Ollerhead reached out to the Sun Chronicle as well as a printing company to try to get information about the cost of the insert. The person she spoke with at Sun Chronicle is looking into the number of Norton subscribers and the cost for the insert.

Ms. Parker went through an updated timeline of the remaining tasks. The draft charter will be voted on at the next meeting. Ms. Snyder has agreed to write the preliminary report and will have a draft ready for the next meeting. Ms. Parker asked that anyone who has comments or suggestions of things they would like to see in the preliminary report to email her and Ms. Snyder.

The commission discussed possibly holding the public hearing at the end of August. Ms. Goldberg anticipates that the ability to have remote hearings will continue for some time. She also suggested providing an in-person option for the public hearing.

4. Public Comment - Open forum

No members of the public wished to speak.

5. Continuation of review of draft of charter with Lauren Goldberg

The following additions and changes were agreed upon for the draft of the charter:

- Any Town official elected under Articles II or III of this Charter or appointed to a multiple member body under Section 4-3(a)(2) who is finally convicted of a state or federal felony offense while holding office shall be deemed to have

vacated their office (Section 8-1c). (Note that this is stricter than state law which states that the official would need to be incarcerated)

- Charter Review Committee will consist of one member of the Board of Assessors as designated by the Board, one member of the School Committee as designated by the Committee, one member of the Planning Board as designated by the Board, or their respective designees, as well as one member of the Town Council appointed by the Council President, one employee appointed by the Town Manager, one registered voter appointed by the Council President and one registered voter appointed by the Town Manager (Section 8-2b)
- Free petitions dealing with charter amendments will be handled by Town Council
- For the first election held in June 2021, the top three vote getters will be elected to a three year term, the next two highest vote getters elected to a two year term, and the next two highest vote getters elected to a one year term (Section 9-6b)
- First meeting of the Town Council will be called by the candidate receiving the highest number of votes at the election (Section 9-6e)
- Town Council shall act as the local licensing board or may at its discretion appoint a separate licensing board for such purposes
- Add to Section 9-6g "including the creation of a Department of Public Works"
- Add two members of the Finance Committee or their designees to the Transition Committee (Section 9-6g)
- Add to Section 2-1 that the terms of the Town Council will be staggered
- Add to the Town Manager duties "Communicate regularly with the public regarding local issues, proposals, actions, and challenges" and "Promote dialogue and partnerships among the Town Council, Town Employees, residents, businesses, and other entities"
- Exclude the library from Section 4-2k
- Add to Section 4-2o "provided, however, that if the Town Council or any member thereof is being investigated, the Town Council President, or, if appropriate, the Town Council Vice President, shall be notified"
- Change Section 4-2r to say "provided, however, that the Council shall approve in advance any settlements above a dollar amount established by the Town Council by bylaw."
- Remove Finance Committee from Section 6-8
- Add to the transition plan the change of Housing Authority from elected to appointed

6. Next Meeting: July 13, 2020

7. Action Items: Clerk to review

All members should read the draft Ms. Goldberg provides and send any questions, comments or changes to Ms. Parker so that the draft can be voted on at the next meeting.

8. Adjournment

Motion was made by Ms. Luciano to adjourn the Charter Commission meeting at 9:36 PM. Seconded by Mr. Wrenn. Vote: Mr. Heaney - yes; Ms. Luciano - yes; Ms. Ollerhead - yes; Ms. Parker - yes; Mr. Silver - yes; Mr. Wrenn - yes. MOTION CARRIES.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: Dana Ollerhead

Minutes approved by the Board or Committee on: 7/13/20

Chairman Signature: Laura L. Parker