

TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

Special Meeting
Monday, June 25, 2018
Scout Hall, 28 Abbe Road, East Windsor, CT.

Committee Members

Co-Chairman: John Matthews, Keith Yagaloff
Members: Don Arcari, Cher Balch, Betsy Burns, William Loos, John Mazza, Rachel Safford, Charlie Szymanski, Bonnie Yosky

MEETING MINUTES

**** These Minutes are not official until approved at a subsequent meeting****

TIME AND PLACE OF SPECIAL MEETING:

Co-Chairman Matthews called the Meeting to Order at 7:00 p.m. in the Meeting Room 1, Scout Hall, 28 Abbe Road, East Windsor, CT.

Roll Call: **Present:** John Matthews, Co-Chairman; Keith Yagaloff, Co-Chairman; Don Arcari, Betsy Burns; William Loos, Rachel Safford, Charlie Szymanski, Bonnie Yosky
 Absent: John Mazza

Guests: Selectman Andy Hoffman, Lynn Stanley.

Press: No one from the Press was present.

ATTENDANCE: See above.

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Minutes of the Charter Revision Commission Organizational Meeting dated June 11, 2018 as presented.

Balch moved/Burns seconded/

VOTE: **In Favor:** Matthews/Yagaloff/Arcari/Burns/Loos/Safford/Yosky
 Opposed: No one
 Abstained: Szymanski

MOTION: To ACCEPT the Minutes of the Charter Revision Commission Public Hearing dated June 11, 2018 as presented.

Loos moved/Balch seconded/

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VOTE: **In Favor:** **Matthews/Yagaloff/Arcari/Burns/Loos/Safford/Yosky**
 Opposed: **No one**
 Abstained: **Szymanski**

The Commission cited the low attendance at the Public Hearing despite publication of the Hearing. Discussion continued regarding alternative options to reach the public.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Lynn Stanley: Mrs. Stanley noted communication has always been an issue with regard to Town activities. She suggested if the Charter Revision Commission Meetings could be held at Town Hall the meetings could be videotaped and could be available for those not able to attend personally.

Andy Hoffman: Selectman Hoffman reported he's disappointed in the adversarial attitude of people; he gave credit to members of the public who consistently attend Selectmen's Meetings. He agreed with the need to find ways to motivate people to participate; he hoped the Charter revisions can include ways to give the public more influence.

Selectman Hoffman felt there were misconceptions regarding the Board of Selectmen's ability to have final approval of the budget prior to going to referendum. He questioned how the Charter addressed that issue?

Selectman Hoffman suggested he would like to see residents have the ability to vote on line items which reflect the larger ticket items presented in the annual budget rather than voting on one all-encompassing budget. He cited examples of towns which allow that process.

Lynn Stanley: Mrs. Stanley agreed with the prevalence of the adversarial attitude. She suggested she would like to see the Charter support a Town Administrator, who would report to the Board of Selectmen, to guide the municipal processes, and a Chief Financial Officer to assist with the budgetary process and grant acquisition. Discussion continued regarding the need to hire an Economic Development professional to promote the Town's commercial properties which would increase revenue.

NEW BUSINESS/A. Discussion of recent (6/21) town meeting results and process:

The recent approval at Town Meeting of \$837,000 in supplemental appropriations was discussed. Selectman Hoffman cited concern for the lack of funding for the South Road sewer replacement project. The Commission discussed the current approval process vs. revising the Charter to include an interim step to promote more indepth review of potential appropriations.

MOTION: To reduce to writing the need to change the requirement in the Charter to 75 signatures for a referendum.

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Balch moved/Yagaloff seconded/

**VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

MOTION: To convert the Public Hearing for supplement appropriation s process into writing to discuss further.

Balch moved/Burns seconded/

**VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

MOTION: To convert the language for the CIP bid, work scope, and alternative solutions to writing.

Yagaloff moved/Loose seconded

**VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

MOTION: To reduce the CIP referral process to writing.

Yagaloff moved/Loos seconded/

**VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous
(No one opposed/No abstentions)**

NEW BUSINESS/B. Develop list of responsibilities of Financial Officer:

Discussion postponed.

NEW BUSINESS/C. Discuss Charge from Board of Selectmen:

Discussion postponed.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: To ADJOURN this Meeting at 9:01 p.m.

Loos moved/Arcari seconded/VOTE: In Favor: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted, _____
Peg Hoffman, Recording Secretary for the 2018 Charter Revision Commission