

**TOWN OF CROMWELL
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2011
7:00 P.M. TOWN HALL ROOM 222**

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vincent Faienza called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Vincent Faienza, Jay Polke, Carl Banic, Phil Gagnon, Richard Duffy and Ed Maley. Attorney Bradley was present. Frank Seidl was not present.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2011

Carl Banic **moved** to accept the minutes of the meeting on June 2, 2011 as amended. The minutes should reflect Chief Elected Official for the Mayor. Jay Polke seconded the motion. **Motion carried.** Carl Banic- yes, Phil Gagnon-absent, Jay Polke-yes, Vincent Faienza-yes, Richard Duffy-yes, Ed Maley-yes

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Barbara Coughlin, 19 Glenwood Terrace— Barbara Coughlin spoke for Ann Halibozek regarding a temporary town manager. She was told the topic would be discussed later tonight.

E. NEW BUSINESS – A letter was sent to the commission by Ellie Corciullo (attached). The Deputy Mayor was discussed being appointed by the council. The commission held a discussion recapping previous decisions made by the commission. Jack Bradley expressed his concern about the second half of Section 2.07 regarding conduct of members.

Ed Maley asked Jack Bradley if he wrote the 2003 Charter and Mr. Bradley stated that he did not write that document. Ed Maley was completely shocked to find out this information. Mr. Maley apologized to Mr. Bradley for any comments he had made regarding Jack Bradley writing the charter. Mr. Maley stated he has been vocal about how poorly written the 2003 Charter was written and was under the impression that Mr. Bradley had written the charter. Mr. Maley is concerned that this 2003 Charter has not had a complete legal review before it was being used. Mr. Bradley stated that the 2003 Charter and also the other towns' charters (Tolland, Rocky Hill, Glastonbury) that will be used to draft the new charter. Mr. Bradley stated he will do a full review of the charter before it is present to the town.

The commission went back to reviewing previous decisions. The commission discussed if the Mayor can call a special meeting. After discussion the commission decided to keep that section the same.

Carl Banic **moved** to accept current discussion and decisions on Section 2 tonight. Rich Duffy seconded the motion. After a brief discussion, **motion carried.** Ed Maley-no, Carl Banic-yes, Phil Gagnon-yes, Rich Duffy-yes, Jay Polke-yes, Vincent Faienza-yes

The commission then discussed Section 3.01 Town Manager. It was discussed to extend the term to a 4 year term which would be on non-election years. Also in the hiring process the commission would like to have an independent professional search firm separate from the town to perform the hiring of the

town manager. Section 3.02 Removal process was a concern of Mr. Banic. He wanted to know if the town manager left early did the town have to pay the manager for the whole contract. Mr. Bradley advised that the charter should not have that language however the contract would have specific language for termination. Acting Temporary Town Manager and Temporary Town Manager was discussed along with powers and duties.

Phil Gagnon moved to add the language to Section 3.04 "shall not be diminished by ordinance or resolution". Rich Duffy seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ed Maley-no, Carl Banic-yes, Phil Gagnon-yes, Rich Duffy-yes, Jay Polke-yes, Vincent Faienza-yes

Phil Gagnon **moved** to accept current discussion and decisions on Section 3 tonight except a small section of 3.04 which was previously voted on. Jay Polke seconded the motion. **Motion carried.** Ed Maley-no, Carl Banic-no, Phil Gagnon-yes, Rich Duffy-yes, Jay Polke-yes, Vincent Faienza-yes

It was suggested that at the beginning of the Elected Officers that the "shall not be diminished by ordinance or resolution." be stated for all elected positions.

Section 4.03 Town Attorney – It was discussed that the town manager may recommend and the town council appoint the town attorney.

Town clerk and tax collector are to remain the same.

Police department - Phil Gagnon **moved** to accept Proposal A from the Chief of Police. Rich Duffy seconded the motion. There was a reading of the proposal. **Motion Carried.** Ed Maley-no, Carl Banic-no, Phil Gagnon-yes, Rich Duffy-yes, Jay Polke-yes, Vincent Faienza-yes

Constables will be removed. The commission will add Senior and Social Services Department. Recreation and Youth Services Commission will change to 5 members with staggered terms. The following boards and commissions will be kept as is: Inland Wetlands, Water Pollution Control, Library Commission, Conservation Commission, Economic Development Commission. Senior Services Commission will need to be added. Tax assessor will be added to the charter.

Carl Banic moved to accept Section 4 with some small changes from before. Jay Polke seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ed Maley-no, Carl Banic-yes, Phil Gagnon-yes, Rich Duffy-yes, Jay Polke-yes, Vincent Faienza-yes

Elected Officers – Town Council will consist of 7 members including a Mayor. The Board of Finance needs to be added back into the charter. Board of Assessment of Appeals, Planning and Zoning, Zoning Board of Appeals, and Board of Education will remain the same. Mr. Maley brought up how alternates would be put on boards-elected or appointed.

Carl Banic moved that the town council will appoint all alternates to boards and commissions. Phil Gagnon seconded the motions. Motion carried. Ed Maley-no, Carl Banic-yes, Phil Gagnon-yes, Rich Duffy-yes, Jay Polke-yes, Vincent Faienza-yes.

Justices of the Peace – The charter currently calls for 15 justices.

Section 7 – Elections - Carl Banic reported to the on this section. The commission discussed voter versus elector. The commission wants to define who can vote for elections and who can vote for referendums. Carl recommended rearranging and combining several sections. Jack Bradley suggested putting in Initiative and Overrule.

F. ADJOURNMENT

A **motion** to adjourn was made by Rich Duffy at 9:04 pm. Carl Banic seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

Carl Banic- yes, Phil Gagnon-yes, Jay Polke-yes, Vincent Faienza-yes, Richard Duffy-yes, Ed Maley-yes

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Kratochvil