

**TOWN OF CROMWELL
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2011
7 P.M. ROOM 222**

MINUTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vincent Faienza called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Present were Vincent Faienza, Carl Banic, Phil Gagnon, Frank Seidl, Ed Maley, Jay Polke and Rich Duffy. Attorney Jonathan Chappell was present.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Carl Banic **moved** to accept the minutes of the meeting on July 27, 2011. Frank Seidl seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

Yes vote – Carl Banic, Phil Gagnon, Frank Seidl, Vincent Faienza, Rich Duffy, Ed Maley, Jay Polke

No vote – None

Ed Maley was absent.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tony Varricchio 6 Kowal Drive – Mr. Varricchio is concerned that the Human Resource director not listed in the Charter. He was told the responsibilities would be fulfilled by the Town Manager. Mr. Varricchio questioned why the stipend was taken away for the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Varricchio stated he spoke to people in town and out of town and they felt the stipend should remain.

Ed Maley arrived at 7:07 pm.

Barbara Coughlin 19 Glenwood Terrace - Mrs. Coughlin asked the commission if they would consider an educational night.

Alice Kelly 47 Willowbrook Road – She feels that the commission has taken its time to make its decisions. She also stated that the job description of the Town Manager does not belong in the Charter.

Tony Varricchio 6 Kowal Drive – Mr. Varricchio stated that the First Selectman in Chester is leaving to go to Vermont as a Town Manager. There is no school for a Town Manager.

D. NEW BUSINESS

The commission held a discussion on the draft before them. Letter from Ellie Corciullo is attached. Frank Seidl and Carl Banic discussed some areas of concern.

Frank Seidl moved to change the wording on Section 2.04 to allow the Town Council to decide any type compensation for themselves including the mayor and any boards. The commission held a discussion. Ed Maley seconded the motion. There was further discussion on the motion. Motion failed.

Yes vote – Carl Banic, Frank Seidl, Ed Maley

No vote – Phil Gagnon, Vincent Faienza, Rich Duffy, Jay Polke

The discussion continued for the commission.

Jay Polke **moved** to approve this revised Charter Draft of August 9, 2011 and submitting to the Board of Selectmen for review, yet allowing for non-substantive modifications such as grammar improvements and clarifications. Phil Gagnon seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Ed Maley is opposed to Section 2.05 (b). He is opposed to not having another public hearing. He feels the commission is morally obligated to have another public hearing. He feels it is being rushed. **Motion carries.**

Yes vote – Phil Gagnon, Rich Duffy, Frank Seidl, Jay Polke, Vincent Faienza

No vote – Ed Maley, Carl Banic

E. ADJOURNMENT

A **motion** to adjourn was made by Carl Banic at 8:20 pm. Rich Duffy seconded the motion. **Motion carried.**

Yes vote – Carl Banic, Phil Gagnon, Frank Seidl, Rich Duffy, Ed Maley, Vincent Faienza, Jay Polke

No vote – None

Respectfully Submitted,



Patricia Kratochvil



Vincent Faienza <e.faienza@gmail.com>

charter police commission. Please make part of your minutes

Joseph Corciullo <corciullo@sbcglobal.net>

Fri, Jul 29, 2011 at 12:46 PM

To: e.faienza@gmail.com, jjpolke@comcast.net, richard.duffy@brewit.com, pgagnon@dowcordon.com, f
<seidle5876@comcast.net>, Barbara Coughlin <barbara.coughlin@sbcglobal.net>, banics@sbcglobal.net,
edmaley@snet.net

Police Commission

I was hoping that the new Charter would have made provisions for the establishment of a separate Police Commission, instead you eliminated it entirely. It's obvious that you were convinced and did so to appease the Chief, Dick Newton and others. That is not in the best interest of the town. Its a large budget with a large department and should not be just over-seen by the manager and Chief!

I believe there are enough duties and responsibilities in the State Statutes plus, to warrant a separate police commission. By doing so, would allow the Council members to devote their duties in overseeing the towns other business.

Chief Salvatore will not always be here, so the new charter should be written by looking at the future of our town.

The department is becoming so large, its evident that we need a separate police commission.

They would have the sole power of appointments, promotions, and the removal of the officers and/or employees of the department, working with the recommendation of the Chief and Town Manager.

They would have the overall general management and supervision of its property and equipment.

They would be responsible in making regulations and prescribe suitable penalties for violations of such regulations, including suspension or removal of officers or employees.

They would be involved in helping to review their annual budget, expenditures approvals, etc. Be involved in contract negotiation. Take on the grievance process, review and approve police employee rules, etc.. Be involved in investigations, and decide if they should be in-house or out sourced (in case of a conflict, i.e. Cider Hill and Senator Dr, both involved the chiefs direct boss, the First Selectman, that was a conflict!) A board where people

