


**TOWN OF CROMWELL
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

Public Hearing

May 11, 2022

6:00 PM Town Hall Senior Center

Minutes

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
May 17, 2022 11:35A
JoAnn Doyle
TOWN CLERK
CROMWELL, CT 

Present: Phil Gagnon, Mike Cannata, Ann Grasso, Lou Menendez, Marie Roberto, Geoff Oryell

A. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chairman Phil Gagnon made a motion to open the public hearing at 6:01 p.m., Mike Cannata seconded. *All were in favor; the motion passed.*

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Alice Kelly, 47 Willowbrook Road, spoke about hearing about one of the changes being proposed is eliminating the Board of Finance. Ms. Kelly is absolutely against that; the Board of Finance is an integral part of any town government. You have a group of people that are elected and they oversee what's going on. They look at what is good in the finance area, what the town can really approve, and they are objective. My son is on the board and he is in finance. He's done mergers and things and has a real handle on fiscal responsibility. I know that when you're running for office, there's no job description that says you don't meet the criteria for that office. I feel that it would be a big mistake, really and truly, for our government to run well, not to have this board to be looking at it. They are independent; they are looking at what is coming down and not the people coming to them saying, "I want this." It is coming to the board from the Town Council. The Board of Finance is looking at what is in the best interest of where our money should go, how much money we should have in funding and things like that.

Ms. Kelly also suggested to the Charter Revision Commission to take a look at the Charter regarding the Board of Finance and to take a look at other towns to see what they have, so that there is a clear understanding as to the jurisdiction and responsibility. I think a lot of people don't really understand how it goes. Maybe this will spell it out and make it a lot easier to understand.

Ms. Kelly stated that she is totally in favor of making the Tax Collector and the Town Clerk to be now not elected and to be salaried people. They should have a job description and responsibilities and what they have as far as credentials. Those two jobs are very important and should not be up for re-election every two years. Have them put out an RFP, providing that they pick someone who meets the RFP.

Vice Chairman Gagnon mentioned to Ms. Kelly that in the 4/27 minutes, the consensus of the Commission was to keep the Board of Finance.

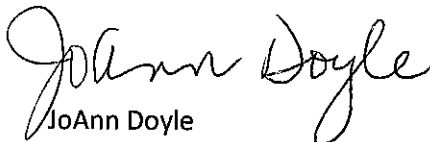
Diane Doxey, 52 Missionary Road, was at the Public Hearing as an observer.

Diane Wiegert, 75 Geer Street, dropped off a written statement of public comment for the Charter Revision Commission, which is attachment one.

C. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Gagnon made a motion to close the public hearing at 6:17 p.m., as there were no more public comments. Mike Cannata seconded. *All were in favor; the motion passed.*

Respectfully submitted,


JoAnn Doyle
Recording Secretary

Date: 5/11/2022

To: Charter Revision Commission Public Hearing

From: Diane Wiegert

Geer St.

Public Hearing Comment

Has anything been put in the charter to address fighting climate change, encouraging sustainable energy usage?

In the near future the Federal and State governments should be handing down some rules, limits, regulations etc to address climate change.

Is Cromwell being proactive by putting a section in the charter to address sustainable energy both at the town level and for new development applications? Will Cromwell put in place a plan for reducing Cromwell's carbon footprint and have that addressed in the charter?

Tonight at 7pm there are two important meetings: this one and the Town Council meeting which I am attending.

Thanks for any consideration on this.