

Charter Commission
Special Meeting
July 11, 2019 7:00 PM

TOWN HALL

MINUTES

- **Members Present:** Chairman Gregg LaFontaine, Karen Buffkin, Myles Davis, Mike Ninteau, Pierre Belisle, and Suzanne Gilleese

1.0 Call to Order

The Chairman called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 pm.

2.0 Discuss and act upon approval of minutes of the June 27, 2019 special meeting and July 3, 2019 regular meeting.

P. Belisle MOVED to approve the minutes of the 6/27/19 Special Meeting; M. Ninteau SECONDED; MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

M. Davis MOVED to approve the minutes of the 7/3/19 Regular Meeting; P. Belisle SECONDED; MOTION CARRIED 5:0:0.

3.0 Communications

The Chairman noted that he had communications with legal counsel. Legal counsel provided him her latest edits of the proposed charter.

4.0 Discuss and act upon approval of final Charter proposal

The Chairman led discussion on the latest version of the proposed charter, edited by legal counsel. The members agreed to the edits proposed by legal counsel. The members also agreed to eliminate the phrase "in January" from Section 7.2 so that it follows the language in Section 7.2 in the 2015 proposed charter. The seventh paragraph of Section 8.1 was also modified by replacing the word "shall" to "may". There was discussion on Section 11.2.2. The phrase "January 8, 2024" was replaced with "November 21, 2023". The second sentence in the section, which states "[t]hereafter, all Selectmen shall serve four (4) year terms" was also discussed, after concern was raised that the sentence may be inconsistent with the four years terms for the first selectman and selectmen to be voted in, in 2021. The members agreed to eliminate this second sentence. There was discussion on the terms of office for the Registrars of Voters. Section 11.3 was changed to reflect that the Registrars of Voters would be elected in 2022 and ever four years thereafter.

The Chairman called for a vote as to whether the members agree to submit this latest version of the charter, for filing.

P. Belisle MOVED to approve the latest version of the proposed charter, for filing; K. Buffkin SECONDED; MOTION CARRIED 6:0:0

The Chairman stated that the proposed charter would be filed with the Town Clerk on July 18, 2019.

K. Buffkin MOVED to authorize the Chairman, G. LaFontaine to correct any typographical errors in the proposed charter before filing; M. Ninteau SECONDED; MOTION CARRIED 6:0:0.

5.0 Discuss and act upon approval of final report to accompany Charter Proposal

The Chairman showed the latest draft report on the charter, to the members, via a projector. The latest version was an eight page document. The members discussed the modifications proposed by the Chairman. The members agreed to the "Summary" section proposed by the Chairman. The section titled "Overview of Major Features" was modified, to eliminate the reference to stipends for Selectmen. Other edits were made in the proposed report.

The Chairman called for a vote on whether to approve the latest version of the report.

P. Belisle MOVED to approve the latest version of the report, to be filed with the proposed charter; M. Davis SECONDED, MOTION CARRIED 6:0:0

The Chairman indicated that he would circulate the proposed charter and report among the members.

The members further agreed that, in case the Chairman was unable to file the proposed charter and report on July 18, 2019, that member M. Nintean would do so.

6.0 Adjourn

P. Belisle MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED; MOTION CARRIED 6:0:0.

Meeting adjourned around 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Gilleese
Secretary, Charter Commission

Please see the minutes of any subsequent meetings for any corrections hereto.