

**CHARTER REVIEW COMMISSION
Colchester, Connecticut
Town Hall Meeting Room 2
April 8, 2015**

Meeting Minutes

Members present: Gregg LePage, Ursula Tschinkel, Monica Egan and Betty Wagner
Guest: Board of Education Chairman Ronald Goldstein.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Chairman Gregg LePage.

Additions to the agenda: None.

Approval of minutes: Motion by Ms. Egan to accept as presented. Second by Ms. Tschinkel. Vote: Unanimous approval.

Citizen comments: None.

Committee Bill 5087 (Act Concerning Municipal Charter Revision): The commission reviewed the bill that is currently before the legislature. The bill is attached to the minutes.

Discussion with Board of Education chair: Mr. Goldstein reviewed with the commission Article 6, C-602 Board of Education. He did not recommend any changes to this section. The commission asked Mr. Goldstein to also review Articles 10 and 11. He agreed with the commission that both articles are in need of updating, which would include increases to the percentages and dollar amounts in C-1001-B and suggested that the commission look into updating C-1002 A, C and D.

Continue review of ordinances: The commission will continue this process at the next meeting.

Citizen comments: None.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Ms. Tschinkel, second by Ms. Egan. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m. The next meeting will be on Tuesday April 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Wagner

Betty Wagner, Secretary

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Referred to Committee on PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Introduced by:

(PD)

AN ACT CONCERNING MUNICIPAL CHARTER REVISION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 7-191 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

(a) The commission shall hold at least two public hearings on the proposed charter, charter amendments or home rule ordinance amendments; one prior to the beginning of any substantive work on such charter, charter amendments or home rule ordinance amendments, and one after the draft report to the appointing authority has been completed, but not submitted, after which hearings

municipality at a special election, such proposed charter, charter amendments or home rule ordinance amendments shall become effective thirty days after such approval unless an effective date or dates are specified therein, in which event the date or dates specified shall prevail.

(g) Not later than thirty days after the approval by the electors of any proposed charter, charter amendments or home rule ordinance amendments, the town or city clerk shall file, with the Secretary of the State, (1) three certified copies thereof, with the effective date or dates indicated thereon, and (2) in the case of the approval of charter or home rule ordinance amendments, three certified copies of the complete charter or ordinance incorporating such amendments. The Secretary of the State shall distribute two copies, whether tangible or intangible in form, to the State Library, where a file of such charters, charter amendments and home rule ordinance amendments shall be kept for public inspection.

(h) On and after the effective date of this section, at least once every ten years, the commission shall review the charter or home rule ordinance, as applicable, in its entirety. If the commission determines that such charter or home rule ordinance requires amendment, the commission shall propose such amendments in accordance with the procedure set forth in subsections (a) to (g), inclusive, of this section.

(i) The commission may make minor and technical revisions to the charter or home rule ordinance without following the procedure set forth in subsections (a) to (g), inclusive, of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2015</i>	7-191
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Statement of Purpose:

To (1) require that municipal charters be reviewed once every ten years, and (2) allow municipalities to make minor technical revisions to their charters without following the procedure set forth in section 7-191 of the general statutes.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]