

CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
Colchester, Connecticut
August 24, 2016
Town Hall Meeting Room Three

Meeting minutes

Members present: Gregg LePage, Ursula Tschinkel, Sheila Tortorigi, Michael Hinchliffe, Don Philips and Betty Wagner

Excused: Monica Egan

Guest: Selectman Denise Mizla.

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Gregg LePage.

2. Additions to the Agenda: None.

3. Approval of the minutes of the August 10, 2016 meeting.

There was one correction: the minutes say "committees" instead of "commission's" in #2, Item A.

Motion by Ms. Tschinkel, second by Mr. Hinchliffe to accept as corrected.

Vote: four yes with Mr. Philips and Mrs. Wagner abstaining because they were not present at the last meeting.

4. Citizen's Comments: Stephen Schuster explained to the commission a situation that occurred in Pennsylvania because there was no provision preventing a person from running for two offices on the same board. In this case, it was for a two year term and for a four year term. He suggested that the commission might look at adding a provision to the charter that would prevent this from happening in Colchester. The commission appreciated Mr. Schuster's suggestion.

5. Updates. Chairman LePage reported.

- a. He received a letter from Jim Paggioli recommending a change in the number of members on the Sewer and Water Commission to five and two alternates. Charter Section C-902b.
- b. Chairman LePage met with the town attorney and she will provide a written position on the position of town Treasurer.
- c. Chairman LePage met with First Selectman Shilosky regarding the submission from the Police Commission.

6. Options for Informing Public of Commission's Work.

The commission discussed at length the matter of how the public will be informed of proposed changes in the charter. Members suggested a variety of options. It was agreed that at the next meeting, the commission will discuss which sections are ready for publication.

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7. Continue Review of Charter. The commission reviewed Article VI, C- 601 through C-603.

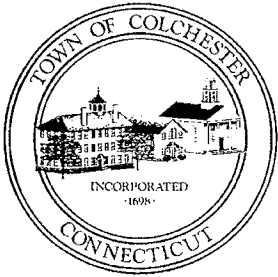
8. Citizen Comments. None.

9. Adjournment. Motion to adjourn by Ms. Tschinkel. Second by Mr. Hinchliffe. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be on September 14, 2016 at the Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Wagner, Secretary



Town of Colchester, Connecticut

127 Norwich Avenue, Colchester, Connecticut 06415

Department of Public Works – Colchester Sewer and Water Commission

August 23, 2016

Mr. Gregg LePage - Chairman
Charter Revision Commission
127 Norwich Avenue
Colchester, CT 06415

Re: Sewer and Water Commission – Member Size Request – Charter Revision Section C-902.B

Charter Revision Commission Members,

In regard to the existing Town of Colchester Charter Section C-902.B, the Sewer and Water Commission is to consist of a nine member board. Over the course of the past years, there has not been enough public interest in serving on the Sewer and Water Commission in order to fill the seats. This has resulted in a technical shortage of quorum to occur at meetings.

It has been requested by the Sewer and Water Commission in order to obtain sufficient quorum at the meetings, to reduce the membership of the Sewer and Water Commission to 5 members with 2 alternate members also being appointed when appropriate interest occurs. This number would effectively manage the day to day oversight as directed in the Town of Colchester Charter. The Sewer and Water Commission would request that this language be included with the Charter Revision items that your Commission will bring forward.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

James Paggioli, L.S.
Director of Public Works

Cc: Steven Coyle, Chairman Sewer and Water Commission