

**Town of Derry  
Charter Commission**

**Minutes of the Meeting of September 17<sup>th</sup>**

**Members Present:**

Kevin Coyle, Kimberly Cyr, Paul Dionne, Mike Gill, Jim MacEachern, John O'Connor, Chris Reisdorf, Brenda Willis

Meeting called to order at 7:00pm  
Salute the flag, notice of emergency exists

**Chairman's Report:**

- Chair welcomed the public and reviewed the purpose for the meeting.
- Motion was made to accept minutes from the organizational meeting. Motion by Chris Reisdorf second by Paul Dionne. Motion approved unanimous with editorial comments for spelling and to change the section of the public hearing to note the original date of September 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Public Forum:**

Motion by Kevin Coyle second by Mike Gill to open the public forum Motion approved unanimous

- David Milz spoke to the issue of the last section in the current charter 11.6 regarding the East Derry Fire District. Mr. Milz suggested this be removed and that the charter be reviewed for other references to the East Derry Fire District
- Mr. Milz also suggested a review of the section of the charter that refers to petitions and the gathering of signatures. Mr. Milz feels the current requirements are too low and he would like to see the number adjusted to better reflect the to population of Derry.
- Motion by Kevin Coyle to close the public hearing seconded by Mike Gill. Motion passed unanimous

**Commission Discussion:**

- The meeting schedule was reviewed and we will hold our meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday's of each month in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor meeting room the one exception will be October 19<sup>th</sup> when we will be meeting in the cable room
- The meeting format was also reviewed and determined to be commission discussion followed by public input.
- The team will take the approach of reviewing the types of government first. This will be part of the September 21<sup>st</sup> meeting as we review the findings of the charter study committee from this past year. Our guest speaker will be Maura Carroll.
- John O'Connor suggested that the agenda be posted on Cable 17.
- Mike Gill requested a copy of each meeting be produced and kept for the public record
- A suggestion to seek volunteers to assist in our efforts was made with several suggestions as to where we could ask for help i.e.: UNH, Mass school of law, Hesser College, Franklin Pierce College.
- As to finance of our efforts the Town Council has a public hearing on October 6<sup>th</sup> to review the request for a 20k budget.
- As part of the budget approval process and following the decision as to the form of government to put forth the commission will move forward to hire the appropriate legal support.
- A suggestion was made as to how official charter commission information will be sent to the press. A motion was made by Mike Gill and a second by Paul Dionne to have the chair speak on behalf of the charter commission to the press. The vote was 6-1-1 with Reisdorf, Gill, Cyr, Dionne, O'Connor, Willis (yes) Coyle (no) MacEachern (abstain)
- Motion to adjourn by Kevin Coyle second by Kim Cyr. Approved unanimous. Adjourned approx. 7:40