

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

The Charter Revision Commission held a Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT on Wednesday, July 25, 2012. Chairman Godin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: James Ritchie, Robert Hall, George “Nick” Schmidt, John Godin, Allan Song, Anthony Filiato, Michelle Embree Ku, Craig Lehecka

Absent: George Coleman

Also Present: First Selectman Pat Llodra, Maryann Jacob, Paul Lundquist, Dan Wiedemann, Dan Honan, Kathy Fetchick and Bob Merola from the Legislative Council, Board of Finance Chairman John Kortze, Debbie Leidlein and John Vouros of the Board of Education, 9 people from the public and 3 people from the press

To hear public comments on the possible changes the charter of the Town of Newtown.

Changes to be considered by the Commission include:

1. Section 6-14(a): Consider including the requirement for a bifurcated budget, to include separate ballot questions for the Board of Selectman and the Board of Education Budget
2. Section 6-14 or 6-15: Consider including non-binding advisory questions as to whether a negative vote is due to the budget being too high or too low.
3. Section 6.14: Consider a budget ballot requiring each voter to (a) approve the budget, (b) reject the budget because it is too high, or (c) reject the budget because it is too low. Once choice only. Advisory questions not necessary.
4. Any reasonable combination of the above.

**Joe Borst, 10 Beechwood Drive** – He was on the Charter Revision in 1987 and again in 1990. There are the same questions as there was back then. Back then bifurcation was not well received. He feels that we need to act as a town and get this job squared away once and all. He suggested looking at the past charter revision commission information in the Town Clerk’s office and to get in touch with CCM to find out what other towns have bifurcation.

**John Vouros, 29 Main Street** – Requested that whatever is decided to be placed on the ballot does not make more confusion than clarity and does not pit the education against the town.

Having no further public comment, meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Arlene Miles  
Clerk