

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

The Charter Revision Commission held a meeting on Tuesday, July 1, 2014 in the Council Chambers at the Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT. Legislative Council Chairman Mary Ann Jacob called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Present: Mary Ann Jacob, George Guidera, Dan Wiedemann, Kevin Burns, Jeffery Capeci, Robert Hall, Tom Long, Eric Paradis, James Ritchie, Deborra Zukowski

Also Present: 2 members of the press

VOTER COMMENTS: None

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of a clerk – Mr. Capeci moved to appoint Arlene Miles as the clerk, Ms. Zukowski seconded, motion unanimously approved.

Election of a chairman – Mr. Wiedemann moved to nominate Mr. Capeci as chairman, Mr. Guidera seconded. Ms. Zukowski expressed concerned because she does not know the other members of the commission and they should get to know each other before they vote. Ms. Jacob agreed but there were no other nominations on the table. Mr. Wiedemann nominated Mr. Capeci because while he was on the Legislative Council, Mr. Capeci was the chairman. He did an admirable job of guiding the council through some difficult times. He can lead a group of very diverse people. Mr. Capeci explained that he has experience, understands the concerns and challenges we face as a town. He would like to use his knowledge as well as his repor with town and elected officials. Motion unanimously accepted.

Mr. Hall moved to add the election of a vice chair to the agenda. Mr. Wiedemann seconded, motion unanimously accepted.

Mr. Long nominated Robert Hall, Mr. Wiedemann seconded, motion unanimously accepted.

At the suggestion of Ms. Zukowski each member introduced themselves.

Robert Hall is a lifelong resident of Newtown. He has been practicing law since graduating from law school. He was the Town Attorney for 8 years. In that roll he was a member of the Charter Revision Commission that created the structure of government that is more or less what we have today.

Jim Ritchie has been a Sandy Hook resident for 40 years. He served on the last Charter Revision Commission and would like to continue to do what he can.

George Guidera graduated from law school, served 1 term in the State House of Representatives, 3 terms in the State Senate and one of those terms was the chairman of the

Senate Judicial Committee. Spent 12 years on the Legislative Committee for the state of CT and was the First Selectman of the town of Weston for 12 years. Moved to Newtown 1 ½ years ago. He wants to help because this is a fabulous town. He is deeply honored to serve on the commission.

Tom Long moved to Newtown in 2005 and lives in the Borough. He has been involved in other groups in town such Edmond Town Hall, EDC and Trails. He works for Work Place in Bridgeport, which is a regional workforce investment board that helps employers with talent development and helps unemployed get back to work. His goal is to learn more about the town and wants to participate and give back.

Deborra Zukowski is a computer systems engineer by trade. Moved to Newtown in 2002. She is here because she believes that Newtown is a great town. She worked on the FFH Review committee. Her aim is to help make the charter more readable for people looking for information.

Jeff Capeci has lived in Newtown since 1997. Bachelor in electrical engineering and a masters in computer science. He sat on the Legislative Council in 2005 and served 4 terms, 2 of which he was chairman. He wants to do things for the town and give back.

Erick Paradis moved to town 8 years ago. Has a master's degree and works as a Special Education Administrator.

Dan Wiedemann moved to Newtown 25 years ago. He spent three years on the Legislative Council. The last go around of the charter revision, he served as chairman of the charge committee.

Kevin Burns moved to Newtown in 1979. Practices law on his own. He was a member of the Conservation Commission for 7 years. Being part of the community and giving back is important.

Scheduling of First Public Hearing and meeting – Mr. Hall moved to hold a public hearing on Monday, July 28, 2014 at 7pm in the council chambers with a meeting to follow. Mr. Wiedemann seconded, motion unanimously accepted.

VOTER COMMENT - none

ANNOUNCEMENTS - none

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Arlene Miles, Clerk