

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

Members of the Charter Revision Commission held a meeting on Wednesday, January 7, 2015 in Meeting Room 1 at the Municipal Building, 3 Primrose Street, Newtown, CT Chairman Jeff Capeci called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Present: Jeffery Capeci, Tom Long, Eric Paradis and Dan Wiedemann

One Member of the Public

Michelle Embree Ku, Platts Hill Road, spoke to the membership about the charter section 2-70(a) specifically she believes the language should be clarified such that the maximum number of elected members from the same party should be set to four rather than five. She does not think the Board or Ed should be a political body, members are challenged by hearing from people with opposing viewpoints. She would not want all Democrats or Republicans on the board.

Members discussed the descriptions for the following Boards and Commissions to be presented to the full Commission at a later date:

Park and Recreation Commission

Parks and Recreation Commission

Public Safety Commission

The Commissioners agreed to meet on January 7 and 14 at 7:30pm.

Having No further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Capeci

Att A: Draft descriptions

Attachment A

Board of Fire Commissioners

1. Purpose

Board of Fire Commissioners shall establish rules and regulations governing the operation and management of the Newtown Fire Department. The Newtown Fire Department consists of all the volunteer fire companies located within the Town and under the supervision and management of a Board of Fire Commissioners.

2. Membership and Terms of Service

a. Each of the volunteer fire companies, in accordance with its bylaws and regulations, appoints one (1) person to serve on the board, these Commissioners appoint two (2) civilian members to complete the Board.

b. Should a volunteer fire company fail to appoint a member of said board, the commissioners shall, within 30 days, appoint a member to fill the vacancy who shall not be a member of any fire company.

b. The term of office shall be for three (3) years.

3. Duties

a. The Board of Fire Commissioners shall be responsible for the financial management of the Fire Department and for the supervision and care of Town owned facilities, apparatus and equipment used by the Fire Department. It may set specifications which shall be followed in the purchase of apparatus, equipment and supplies by the Town for the Fire Department.

b. The organization, government, membership and management of the Fire Department shall be in accordance with the by-laws and regulations of the departments in effect on the effective date of this Charter. Such by-laws and regulations may be amended by the Board of Fire Commissioners. Amendments to the by-laws, however, shall become effective only on approval by a majority of the volunteer fire companies which are members of the Fire Department.

c. The Board of Fire Commissioners shall appoint a fire marshal and may appoint deputy fire marshals and fire policemen, who shall have the powers and duties prescribed for their offices by the General Statutes or by ordinance.

Attachment A

d. Shall prescribe uniform conditions for admission of volunteer fire companies as members of the Newtown Fire Department;

Park and Recreation Commission

1. Purpose

The Parks and Recreation Commission shall, at all times, supervise, maintain and develop for recreational purposes such area or areas of land as may be donated or purchased for such use to the Town or assigned for such use by the Town. The Parks and Recreation Commission shall have sole supervision of any and all buildings and equipment installed in such parks areas. The Commission shall develop such recreational programs as the needs of the Town require, provided there is an appropriation(s), or private donation(s) have been received for this purpose.

2. Membership and Terms of Service

- a. The Parks and Recreation Commission is composed of seven (7) members.
- b. Members serve two (2) year terms.

Public Safety Committee

1. Purpose

There shall be a public safety committee to review correctional safety and security issues at Garner Correctional Facility which affect the town of Newtown.

2. Membership and Terms of Service

- a. The committee shall be composed of the warden or superintendent of the correctional facility.

Attachment A

b. Other representatives shall be appointed by the First Selectman with the approval of the Board of Selectmen.

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