



TOWN OF NEWTOWN

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

A CHARGE TO THE 2010/2011 CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

To those appointed to serve on the 2010/2011 Charter Revision Commission, your charge is as follows:

You will hold an organizational meeting as soon as possible after your appointment, the same to be scheduled and chaired by the Chairman of the Legislative Council until you elect your own Chairman, whereupon he/she shall preside over the remainder of the organizational meeting during which a Vice Chairman shall be elected and a Secretary appointed.

Your meetings shall thereafter be called by your Chairman and be conducted as prescribed by, and in accordance with, Roberts Rules of Order. You may adopt such additional rules, not inconsistent with Roberts Rules of Order, as you deem appropriate for the efficient conduct of business.

No action shall be taken except by recorded motion and recorded vote, with a simple majority of a quorum prevailing.

You will consult with provided counsel with particular concern for, at the very least, proper drafting, possible redundancy, avoidance of inconsistencies and conflict, either within the Charter itself, or within the Charter and our Connecticut General Statutes. You will also seek review of your finished product by counsel before the same is submitted to the Legislative Council.

You will report progress and activity to the Legislative Council at such times and in such manner as requested by the Chairman of the Legislative Council.

It is our request that you complete your review and report and submit final product to the Legislative Council by December 15, 2010 in order to appear on a referendum ballot in time to affect the 2011 budget referendum process.

You will visit and consider the following issues and recommendations:

1. Sec. 6-14 (a) Consider including the requirement for a bifurcated budget, to include separate ballot questions for the Board of Selectmen budget and the Board of Education budget.
2. Sec. 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. Sec. 6-14 – Consider a budget ballot requiring each voter to (a) approve the budget, or (b) reject the budget because it is too high, or (c) reject the budget because it is too low. One choice only. Advisory questions not necessary.

You may also consider matters and issues of your own choice.

Should you fail to make a recommendation concerning any of the above, or any self-proposed matter or issue, you will advise the Legislative Council if such lack of action was for want of support, or, in the alternative, for want of consideration.

Respectfully submitted by the Ad Hoc Charter Charge Committee of the Legislative Council for consideration by the entire Legislative Council:

Jan Andras
Ben Spragg
Kevin Fitzgerald
Dan Amaral

8/18/10