Town of Sturbridge

Charter Review Committee

Meeting Minutes July 28, 2016

Meeting convened at 6:33 pm in Town Hall Conference Room #2 by Vice Chairperson Sandra Gibson-Quigley. Present: Sandra Gibson-Quigley (SG-Q), Paul Zapun (PZ), Bruce Boyson (BB), and Larry Morrison (LM).

PZ moved, SG-Q seconded a motion to approve the minutes of July 27, 2016, as submitted. Passed 3-0-1 (BB).

The Committee resumed, at Section 6, its close review of its work and completed that process by extending the review through the Charter's last word.

Mindful of the Town Administrator's email, dated June 30, 2016, with respect to reconciling Section 6-2 and Section 6-5(2), the Committee noted that the issue raised in that email would, under the Committee's recommended revision, resolve by reason of the proposed removal of the list of offices found in 6-2. The Committee deemed that list as an artifact from the decades-ago transition Executive Secretary to the present Office of Town Administrator and, therefore, no longer relevant. The Committee's recommended language contemplates the issue noted in the June 30, 2016, email and sets forth umbrella language designed to achieve a resolution.

The Committee acknowledged receipt of an offer from the Town Clerk to meet with the Committee in the matter of election or appointment of the Town Clerk. LM was authorized to advise the Town Clerk of the date/time/place of the next scheduled Committee meeting and to invite the Town Clerk to attend that meeting and to present her views.

It was agreed that a final check of the recommendations and a review of a draft cover letter, to include topics of potential interest to the Selectmen, which came to light and fall outside the Committee's mandate, and the conduct of a public hearing all remain to be done.

PZ moved, BB seconded a motion to adjourn at 8:03 pm. Passed 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Morrison, Clerk