

# **CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 23, 2010**

In attendance at the meeting: Commission Members: John P. Chiota, Esq., Chairman; William S. Holden, Vice Chairman; Gail J. Hanna, Secretary; Russell Friedson, Daniel F. Schopick, Esq., and Paul Timpanelli.

*Meeting Called to Order 7:05PM.*

A Motion was made to approve the Minutes of September 7, 2010 by W. Holden, and seconded by D. Schopick. Minutes unanimously approved.

Continuing with the Charter revision:

R. Friedson submitted to the Commission his suggestions of Charter Changes and Additions, a copy of which is filed with the Minutes at the Town Clerk's Office.

G. Hanna noted an email she received requesting a change from "Library Boards" to "Library Board of Directors".

The Commission discussed further the change from 2 (two)-year terms to 4 (four)-year terms for all elected/appointed/boards and commission officials.

### **CHAPTER I. INCORPORATION AND GENERAL POWERS**

**Idea #82** - J. Chiota submitted a copy of the Fairfield's Charter to the Commission. He suggested that the Trumbull's Charter should read as the Fairfield's Charter pertaining to Article 1.3 – Definitions of Standardized Terms and also a 1.4 to be added of all of the positions, bodies, and boards terms should be spelled out for more clarity. J. Chiota requested to W. Holden that he should go through 1.4 list to see what needs to be added or deleted.

### **CHAPTER II. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH**

#### **Section 2. Composition and Election.**

**Idea #83** - Line 5, replace "preceding" with "in the year of".

**Idea #84** - Top of Page 4, Paragraph A., first line, delete "and no person may vote for".

**Idea #85** - Top of Page 4, first paragraph, third line, replace "this" with "the".

**Idea #86** - Top of Page 4, first paragraph, add additional language to the end of the paragraph "and each voter may vote for as many members as may be elected".

#### **Publications of Agendas, Supplemental Information and Minutes:**

**Idea #87** - Add a separate paragraph for "Publications".

**Idea #88** - Number of days should refer to "business days".

**Idea #89** - Paragraph a) "after 48 hours including weekends, the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) business day after the meeting ends".

**Idea #90** - J. Chiota, W. Holden and D. Schopick agreed the number of days for submissions **should** be in compliance with FOI requirements. G. Hanna, R. Friedson and P. Timpanelli agreed the number of days for submissions **should not** be in compliance with FOI requirements. Legal advice will be necessary.

**Idea #91** - A separate paragraph under “Publications” – “Electronic records considered same as paper records”.

**Section 3. Chairman and Vice-Chairman.**

No changes.

**Section 4. Clerk.**

**Idea #92** - Line 6, delete “in books kept by him/her for that purpose and such books shall constitute a public record”.

**Section 5. Meetings.**

No changes.

**Section 6. Adoption of legislation.**

No changes.

**Section 7. Emergency legislation.**

No changes.

**Section 8. Investigative powers.**

**Idea #93** - Replace “which” with “and”.

**Idea #94** - Line 2, delete “in a book to be kept for the purpose”

**Section 9. Investigative powers.**

No changes.

**Section 10. Audit powers.**

**Idea #95** - Does Maria Pires have a list of enterprise and special agencies?

**Idea #96** - Paragraph A, add additional language at the end “, including the Board of Education”.

**Section 11. Powers denied council.**

**Idea #97** - Replace “the First Selectman” with “any elected official”.

**Section 12. Vacancies in the Council.**

No changes.

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The Commission will continue with **CHAPTER III. EXECUTIVE BRANCH** at the next meeting on October 6, 2010.

The Charter Revision Commission unanimously agreed to the future meetings scheduled for:

Wednesday, October 20, 2010 at 7:00PM

Wednesday, November 10, 2010 at 7:00PM

Tuesday, November 23, 2010 at 7:00PM

*Meeting Adjourned: 8:30PM*

Respectfully submitted

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Marilou Mangiamele, Clerk

