



CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

August 21, 2008

Room 204

7:00 P.M.

Commissioners Present: Jack Bashar
Steve Bellis
Sue Coyle
Paul DiMauro
Chris Gallo
Ken Nappi
Irene Smith

Via Conference Call: Bob Lally
Mayor Mark Lauretti

Excused: Michael Davis

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Paul DiMauro called the Special Meeting of the Charter Revision Commission to order at 7:11 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

DISCUSSION

The Charter Revision Commission had discussion regarding the summary of all items that were discussed at the meeting with the Board of Aldermen on Tuesday, August 19, 2008.

Items discussed:

Planning & Zoning – changed to seven (7) members

WPCA – minority representation is per State Statute

Succession to Office – increase remaining term to fifteen (15) months and ninety (90) days to hold election; language added

Appointment by Mayor – idea of disclosure was welcomed by the Board of Aldermen

Public Employee – language added to title and paragraph

General Provisions – changed appointed to re-appointed

(Terrible interference on tape)

Public Safety Council – language added

Advisory Council – office now called Office of Emergency Management; language added

Fire Department – language added to Board of Fire Commissioners, Appointments, and Officer's Council

End Side A, Tape 1

Budget – changed final date to May 30

Website – intricate part of communication with public, Finance Director in charge of website maintenance

Appointing Authority – City/Town Clerk to have list of appointments of terms due to expire

(Terrible interference on tape)

Appointed Office – language added

Inland Wetlands Commission – no change, still an appointed Commission

Purchasing – language added

Elected Office/Grandfather Clause – Board of Aldermen, with exception of one (1) Alderman, recommended taking this language out

End Side B, Tape 1

Commissioner Gallo motioned to delete the “Grandfather Clause” language 9.3. (b) inserted into the Proposed Charter. Commissioner Bellis seconded the motion.

Discussion:

The Committee stated that this is not personal; it is the Commission taking a stand on what this Commission feels is right. Shouldn't be giving extra points. This is not fair to the people that are appointed. The “Clause” should not be put in just to guarantee the passage of this document. There have been many hours spent on revising this and this is a good document.

A voice vote was taken; motion passed 5-2 to delete language.

Commission continued to review all changes made to the Proposed Charter.

End Side A, Tape 2

Commissioner Gallo motioned to approve changes made to the Charter as reflected in the comments by the Board of Aldermen. Commissioner Coyle seconded the motion.

A voice vote was taken; motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Nappi motioned to refer the Proposed Charter to Corporation Counsel to verify that verbiage is not in conflict with State Statute. Commissioner Bellis seconded the motion.

A voice vote was taken; motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Bellis motioned to return Proposed Charter to the Board of Aldermen as modified for their consideration subject to Corporation Counsel comments. Commissioner Coyle seconded the motion.

Commissioner Bellis withdrew his motion.

Commissioner Bellis motioned to send the Proposed Charter to the Board of Aldermen subject to review of Corporation Counsel to ensure there are no conflicts with State Statutes. Commissioner Coyle seconded the motion.

Commissioner Bellis motioned to withdrew all prior motions. Commissioner Coyle withdrew her second.

Commissioner Bellis motioned to send the Proposed Charter to the Board of Aldermen with appropriate changes with a recommendation that Corporation Counsel review the document to ensure no conflicts with State Statutes. Commissioner Coyle seconded the motion.

A voice vote was taken; motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Bellis motioned to request and not exceed \$10,000 from the Board of Aldermen to inform the public of the changes made to the Charter. Commissioner Gallo seconded the motion.

A voice vote was taken; motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Nappi motioned to have this Commission be willing to have themselves available to groups to inform the public on any actions taken by this Commission. Commissioner Bashar seconded the motion.

A voice vote was taken; motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Gallo motioned to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Charter Revision of August 21, 2008. Commissioner Bashar seconded the motion.

A voice vote was taken; motion passed unanimously.

Chairman DiMauro adjourned the Special Meeting of the Charter Revision Commission at 10:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Sophia V. Belade

Sophia V. Belade
Charter Revision Clerk

Mayor Lauretti's full comments can be heard on tape which is available at City Clerk's office.

TAPES ARE AVAILABLE IN THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

ALL ATTACHMENTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABE ON THE WEB, FULL COPIES AVAILABLE IN CITY/TOWN CLERK OFFICE