

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
September 14, 2020

Webex Conferencing System

5:30 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER** Chairperson Singer called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

**PRESENT** Chairperson David Singer, Vice Chairperson Otis Wheeler, Councilor Shelia Gilmour, Councilor Christine Forgey and Erin Donnally Drake.

**ABSENT** John Lunt and Allen Woods.

**ALSO PRESENT** Intern from the Mayor's Office Christian LaPlante; DPW Director Marlo Warner; Councilors Penny Ricketts and Norman Hirschfeld and members of the public.

**CHAIR STATEMENT:** This meeting is being recorded by the Charter Review Committee. If any other persons present were doing the same they must notify the chairperson at this time.

**MOTION:** On a motion by Councilor Wheeler, second by Councilor Gilmour, it was by majority, 3 yes, 1 abstention,

**VOTED:** TO APPROVE THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE MINUTES DATED JULY 28, 2020.

Chairperson Singer stated that a public hearing would be scheduled for Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 pm. Other comments included:

- Establish a one or two person committee to begin drafting sections of the Charter with proposed changes and amendments submitted by City employees and the public.
- The language in the section regarding the School Committee should be uniform with the rest of the Charter.
- The two main proposed changes to the Charter involve the addition of ranked choice voting to Article 7 Elections; Election Related Matters, and the language of Section 7-7 Citizen initiative measures.
- Broaden the definition to the role of the Public Safety Commission in Section 6-11.
- The following committee members had been assigned Charter Sections for review and proposed amendments and/or revisions to the language, if any:
  - Sheila Gilmour – Article 1 Incorporation; Short Title; Definitions  
Article 2 Legislative Branch  
Article 3 Executive Branch
  - Erin Donnally Drake & John Lunt – Article 4 School Department
  - Otis Wheeler – Article 5 Finance and Fiscal Procedures
  - Christine Forgey – Article 6 Administrative Organization
  - David Singer & Allen Woods – Article 7 Elections; Election Related Matters
- The full Council would be sent a list of the Charter section assignments so they can communicate any proposed changes and/or amendments they may have with the appropriate committee member.
- The next regular meeting would be scheduled for Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by Councilor Forgey, second by Councilor Gilmour, it was unanimously

**VOTED:** TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:04 P.M.