

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING
MINUTES
October 5, 2020

Webex Conferencing System

6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER Chairperson Singer called the meeting to order at 6:09 p.m.

PRESENT Chairperson David Singer, Vice Chairperson Otis Wheeler, Councilor Shelia Gilmour, Councilor Christine Forgey, Erin Donnally Drake, John Lunt and Allen Woods.

ABSENT None

ALSO PRESENT Councilor Penny Ricketts 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.

Chairperson Singer presented a brief statement in regards to the Charter Committee holding a public hearing and their role in submitting a report to the City Council on proposed recommendations to amend the Charter. He opened the public hearing at 6:15 pm.

The following members of the public spoke:

- Susan Worgaftik, Forest Avenue, on behalf of herself and 10 other Greenfield residents, read from a prepared statement that addressed the proposed amendments on the number of Councilors on the City Council; Allowing the Mayor to be Chair of the School Committee; Public Safety Commission; Citizen Referendum Procedures and the Review of the City of Greenfield Ordinances.
- Susan Hollins, Francis Street, presented her proposed recommendations in regards to the School Committee section of the Charter.
- Rachel Gordon, Eastern Avenue, spoke in favor of the addition of rank choice voting in local elections to the Charter. She also spoke against reducing the number of Councilors on the City Council and Allowing the Mayor to be the Chair of the School Committee.
- Pamela Goodwin, High Street, spoke in favor of the addition of rank choice voting in local elections to the Charter. She also voiced her support to the proposed recommendations submitted by Ms. Worgaftik.
- Katherine Golub, Glenbrook Drive, spoke in favor of the addition of rank choice voting in local elections to the Charter. She also voiced her support to the proposed recommendations submitted by Ms. Worgaftik.
- Al Norman, Grinnell Street, spoke to the proposed amendments he submitted to the Charter Review Committee for the Citizens Initiative Measures and Referendum Procedures in the Charter Sections 7-7 and 7-8. He also voiced his support to the proposed recommendations submitted by Ms. Worgaftik.
- Jean Wall, High Street, spoke of her desire to see language in the Charter that would ban anyone who serves on a board to receive financial gain from their service. She also argued that the Superintendent of Schools should not be a voting member of the Capital Improvement Committee.

Chairperson Singer closed the public hearing at 7:04pm. He thanked those who spoke at the public hearing and requested that they submit their comments in writing and forward them to the Clerk's office.

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, October 26, 2020, at 5:30 pm.

Councilor Gilmour had a question in regards to the submission of proposed amendments to the Charter Sections that each Committee member was assigned to review.

ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Councilor Wheeler, second by Committee Member Lunt, it was by unanimous show of hands,

VOTED: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:11 P.M.