



TOWN OF MAYNARD CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE

195 MAIN STREET
MAYNARD, MASSACHUSETTS 01754

MEMBERS

William Kohlman, Chair
Sally Bubier
Peter Campbell
Brendon Chetwynd
William Cranshaw
Lou Ann Cutaia
Natasha Rivera
Jeffrey Swanberg

**Public Hearing at the Select
Board Meeting Minutes
In Person & Remote Meeting via Zoom
Tuesday, February 21, 2023**

RECEIVED

By Jim Alexander - Asst. Town Clerk at 3:12 pm, Feb 14, 2024

Members present: Bill Kohlman (WK), Bill Cranshaw (WC), Lou Ann Cutaia (LAC), Sally Bubier (SB)(Zoom) and Natasha Rivera (NR)(Zoom)

Members absent: Peter Campbell (PC), Brendon Chetwynd (BC), and Jeffrey Swanberg (JS)

This meeting was recorded.

Call to Order: At the Select Board meeting, Ms. St. John explained that, as required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 43B, the Maynard Select Board will hold their hearing for amendments to the Town Charter on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 7: 10 pm. The purpose of the hearing is to receive and review any comments on proposed amendments to the Town Charter. Town Charter Review Committee then called our meeting to order with a roll call.

Mr. Cranshaw explained that the Town Charter acts as a constitution for the Town, and it is reviewed every 10 years. During this review, the Committee recommended a number of changes pertaining to updates, language clarification, and new additions.

During discussion, it was clarified that Town Counsel and the Attorney General's Office reviewed the Town Charter with the recommended changes. It was also clarified that one of the changes would allow the Town Administrator to hire a committee-appointed position and then seek approval from the relevant board or committee. Furthermore, it was clarified that each change to the Town Charter must be voted on individually.

The following Public Comments were received:

Kate Wheeler, 31 Harrison Street, posed the idea of two permanent standing committees; a Town Staff and Volunteer Review Committee as well as a permanent Municipal Building Committee with professionals from the community. Mr. Gavin explained that the Select Board does not have much flexibility committee requirements for school buildings due to Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) regulations, but it could work for other Town buildings.

Roger Stillwater, 17 Sunset Road, advocated for amendments that would change the process for citizens to bring warrant articles to Town Meeting. Mr. Kohlman explained that, while the process has not been changed, more clarity has been provided. Ms. Cutaia explained that the proposed amendments incorporated the Town Moderator's guidance and checklist as a framework.

During further discussion, it was clarified that the Town will continue to push this information to the public via the new website, social media, as well as the mail for the physical copy of the warrant. Additional advertising ideas included a town-wide call reminder as well as using WA VM to help advertise. It was also clarified that the Town Charter Review Committee will be discharged after the Town Election if the amendments pass.

Adjournment

Motion was made by WK to adjourn the meeting, seconded by WC. Voted: Motion carried unanimously. The Town Charter Review Committee adjourned at 7:42pm.

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February 21, 2023 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. DiSilva and seconded by Mr. Gavin to close the public hearing at 7:45pm. Voted: Motion carried unanimously. Voted: Motion carried unanimously.

Recording Secretary: Greg Wilson was the recording secretary for the meeting.

Documents (attached/shared) on February 21, 2023

Charter Report.docx

Charter_Proposed Changes as of 11-3-22 Final.docx

Charter_Proposed Changes as of 11-3-22 Final Markup.docx

Date approved:
