

January 26, 2009
East Lyme Charter Revision Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Len Goldberg
Robert Tobin
Tony Attanasio
Michael Foley
Steve McCue
Carole Green
Christopher Sandford

I. Call to Order. Chairman Goldberg called the January 26, 2009 East Lyme Charter Revision Commission Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance. The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

III. Approval of Minutes of January 12, 2009. Chairman Goldberg asked for additions, deletions or corrections to the January 12, 2009 Charter Revision Commission Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: Mr. Foley moved to approve the January 12, 2009 Charter Revision Commission Meeting Minutes, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Sandford. Carole Green and Len Goldberg abstained from voting. (5-0-2) Motion carried.

IV. Delegations. There were no delegations.

V. New Business.

a. Preparation of Final Report. Chairman Goldberg asked for discussion on preparation of the final report to be submitted to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Foley stated he was willing to prepare an initial draft to present to the Committee.

VI. Old Business

a. Proposed Section 7.3 Annual Budget Meeting. Commission members reviewed proposed Section 7.3 prepared by Mr. Tobin.

Mr. Tobin stated this draft calls for a referendum every two weeks until a budget is passed. He stated there are towns in which the Charter specifies that referendums stop at a certain point.

Mr. Foley suggested changing the word "convened" to "continued".

Mr. Tobin stated this proposed Section 7.3 does not call for bifurcation.

Mr. Sandford read section 7.1 of the present Town Charter. It was felt that there should be consistency in the Charter on which Board calls the Town Meeting.

Mr. Tobin agreed to discuss proposed Section 7.3 with Town Attorney.

b. Status of Town Attorney Questions. Mr. Tobin stated he received a voice mail from Attorney O'Connell requesting that they discuss these questions. Mr. Tobin agreed to contact

him.

c. Bifurcation of Budget.

MOTION: Mr. Sandford moved to eliminate bifurcation of budget from this Commission's list of items for consideration. Seconded by Mr. McCue. (7-0) Unanimous.

d. Any unresolved issues from Item List. Mr. Foley felt the language on Section 8 should remain in the Charter. Mr. Tobin felt it may have historical value. Mr. McCue felt it should be totally reviewed by the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Goldberg felt Town Attorney should be asked his opinion. Mr. Tobin agreed to ask him his opinion.

MOTION: Mr. Tobin moved to eliminate item 14 from further consideration. Seconded by Carol Green. (7-0) Unanimous.

VII. Public Comments. There were no public comments.

VIII. Preparation of Agenda for 2/9/09 Meeting. The February 9 Agenda was prepared.

IX. Adjournment.

MOTION: Mr. Sandford moved to adjourn the January 26, 2009 East Lyme Charter Revision Commission Meeting at 7:50 p.m. Seconded by Carol Green. (7-0) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Gherzi, Recording Secretary