

Agenda for East Lyme Charter Revision Commission - 02/07/23

Date and time: 02/07/23 07:00 pm to: 02/07/23

Organizer: Brooke Stevens

Participants: Brooke Stevens, Recording Secretary, Marc Salerno, Beth Hogan, Anna Johnson, Timothy Hagen , Larry Fitzgerald, Jay Ginsberg, Wayne Blair , Barry Sheckley, Vivek Puohit, Maryanna Stevens , Jeffrey McNamara

Optional: Kevin Seery, First Selectman, Sam Geary, Charter Revision Research Assistant

Location: East Lyme Town Hall, Upper Conf. Room, 108 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic, CT

Topics

1. Call to Order & Pledge

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Note The Commission agreed that each subcommittee will approve their own set of meeting minutes.

2-1. January 3rd, 2023, and January 17th, 2023, Budget Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

2-2. January 3rd, 2023, and January 17th, 2023, Town Commissions Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

2-3. January 3rd, 2023, and January 17th, 2023, Town Structure Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

2-4. January 17th, 2023, Charter Revision Meeting Minutes

3. Ex-Officio Comments

4. New Business

4-1. Open Discussion on Charter Topics Not Covered by Subcommittees

5. Old Business

Note Subcommittee Report and Discussions

5-1. Town Commissions

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2023 JAN 23 P 1:18
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TOWN CLERK

Note The Town Commissions Subcommittee will focus on items #2, #3, #12 & #13- Consider possible merger of the Planning Commission and Zoning Commission. Consider possible amendment of Section 2.7 to provide four-year terms of Selectmen and two- or four-year terms of First Selectman. Consider the possible amendment of Section 2.5.41 to provide that an appointee to a vacancy in an elective office shall serve the remainder of the term that was filled. Consider reinstating the Conservation Commission which will be comprised of members from both the Inland Wetlands Agency and the Commission for the Conservation of Natural Resources.

5-2. Town Structure

Note: The Town Structure Subcommittee will focus on items #4, #5, & #10- Consider possible removal of Town Clerk and Tax Collector from elective offices and add said offices to administrative offices. Consider the possible exemption from the residency requirement set forth in Section 4.1.2, certain appointive offices, such as Director of Emergency Management, Dog Warden, etc., and the offices described in Sections 5.3- 5.7. Consider the possible addition of an appointive officer named the "Operations Officer" to assist the First Selectman in the performance of his or her administrative duties. This group will also look into the concept of a town manager government system, and the cleanup of appointed Board(s) language.

5-3. Town Budget

Note: The focus of the Town Budget Subcommittee are items #1, #7, #8, & #9- Consider possible elimination of automatic budget referendum provision in Section 7.3 of the Charter. Consider the possible amendment of Section 6.3.4 to provide that if the Board of Finance does not act on requests for special appropriations or transfers of funds within specified time, the result is an automatic approval. Consider the possible amendment of Section 6.3 to provide that projects funded entirely by grants from the State of Connecticut which do not require an appropriation of town funds need not be approved by the Board of Finance or at a Town Meeting. Consider the possible amendment of Section 6.3,1 to provide that the current dollar threshold of \$10,000 for special town meetings be raised.

6. Public Delegations

7. Adjournment

Note Respectfully Submitted,
Brooke Stevens, Recording Secretary