

**Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting
March 31, 2009
6:00PM
Town Hall
Revised**

Meeting was called to order by Catherine A. Osten, First Selectman at 6:00PM. Selectman Edward Meadows was present. Selectman Kevin Generous arrived at 6:10PM. Also present: Gerry Meadows, Glenn Cheney, Richard Douville, Dennison Allen, Ray Arpin, Ward Eccles, Wendy Schnip, Joe Osowski, Claude Pellegrino, Linda Puetz and Carmella Turner.

1. Discuss and possibly make recommendations to the Charter Commission

Per State Statutes timeline outlined

Process to follow complying with State Statutes

Charter Commission

2 public hearings held on

(1) Date: November 13, 2007

(2) Date: September 30, 2008

Submission to Town Clerk – February 4, 2009

(Within 45 days Appointing Authority to hold hearing)

Charter Commission made their presentation to the Board of Selectmen at the Board's February 11, 2008 meeting.

Appointing Authority (Board of Selectmen) – Hearing March 17, 2009

No later than 15 days after Public Hearing held on March 17th last day being April 1, 2009 the Board of Selectmen will hold a Special Meeting to review, discuss and possibly make recommendations to the Charter Commission.

March 31, 2009 - Special Board of Selectmen's meeting

Charter Commission has 30 days to make a final decision to the appointing Authority (Board of Selectmen)

No later than 15 days after receiving the final report from the Charter Commission, the Board of Selectmen will approve or reject

If rejected, the Town's people have 45 days to submit a petition to recommend approval of the Charter.

Survey mailings sent out; tabulated all results. Townspeople were given the opportunity to address their concerns via Public Hearings and the survey. The following are concerns addressed at the Board of Selectmen's Special Meeting:

Article II Section 2.2 Elected Boards results from the last hearing; 5 Selectman vs. 3 Selectman.
(Send back to Charter Commission for debate.)

Article II Section 2.4 Town Employees Hired vs. appointed for Town Clerk, Tax Collector, and Treasurer. Board in agreement with hired, allowing expansion for search in filling positions. *(Send back to Charter Commission for debate.)*

Article III Section 3.2 B & C Eligibility for Elected Officials and Board Members Question on appointed positions *(Send back to Charter Commission for debate.)*

Article IV Appointed Officials and Boards Section 4.3 –3. The Conservation Commission is responsible for the development; the word development giving more authority to the Commission. (Send back to Charter Commission to debate the word development). C. Osten stated the Commission is obligated to review conservation easements and regulate these resources. To provide K. Generous statutes for verification. Note: absence of the Economic Development Commission; covered under Town ordinances.

Article VI Section 6 .2 B Hiring and Appointment of Town Employees– Question came up with; consult with the Board of Selectmen before hiring the Town Clerk, Tax Collector or Treasurer. (Send back to Charter Commission to debate the word consult).

Article X Section 10.1 Town Meeting Question came up with except as otherwise provided herein the debate is whether this is more inclusive or less inclusive. (Send back to Charter Commission for debate).

Article X Section 10.2 A & B Annual Town Meeting shall an Annual Town Meeting be adjourned to referendum? Does this allow for an opportunity for public to reduce the budget? The State Statute already allows this to go straight to referendum.

Article X Section 10.5 B Procedure – Specified in this article that Moderator should not be a Town Official. (Send back to Charter Commission for debate).

Article X Section 10.4 A. Elector’s Power to Require Town Meeting. In question the ruling of the Town Attorney on the legality or propriety of a petition shall be final. (Send back to Charter Commission for debate).

Article X Section 10.6 Voting (Send back to Charter Commission for debate).

Article X Section 10.7 (1) and (2) Town Meeting Action by Referendum, Clarify

The minutes will be forwarded to the Charter Commission for their review and ultimate decision.

2. To receive the Rural Development Council’s final report and hear their recommendations.
Rural Development Council cancelled - No report. Tabled.

3. Adjournment

Motion made by E. Meadows, seconded by K. Generous to adjourn meeting at 7:20PM. Unanimously voted.

Respectfully submitted by,

Catherine A. Osten
First Selectman