

**REGULAR MEETING – AD HOC ADVISORY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION – COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
WEDNESDAY – MARCH 9, 2016 – 5:30 P.M.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER (5:30 P.M.)**

Present: James Angelo, Lawrence Cioppa, Richard Dudley, Christopher Lawlor, Christian Lund, Nina Rossomando (left the meeting at 7:05 p.m.), Paula Ruisi, John Formica

Absent: Steven Turano ( arrived 5:35 p.m.)  
James V. Silvestri, Council President, Ex-Officio  
Benjamin Delaney, Commission Secretary

Also Present: Donna Giordano, Town Clerk

**2. ORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEE**

a. Appointment of Permanent Chairperson

Motion by Mr. Dudley, Seconded by Ms. Ruisi, that Lawrence Cioppa be appointed Chairperson of this Commission. (Voted Unanimously – Ms. Rossomando had left the meeting)

b. Appointment of Vice Chairperson

Motion by Mr. Angelo, Seconded by Mr. Formica, that Christian Lund be appointed Vice Chairperson of this Commission. (Voted Unanimously – Ms. Rossomando had left the meeting)

**3. DISCUSSION**

The Commission was introduced to Mark Tate, the Town's IT Director, who explained the process by which the town would transition from one software company to another and how data would be converted so that language might be incorporated into the charter.

Mr. Cioppa stated that he chose two areas for discussion this evening and presented them to the Commission—one being form of government and the other terms limits.

Discussion was held regarding a council/mayor form of government versus a council/manager form of government, the council president being elected by the voters, changing from at-large to district representation, recall of elected officials, changing terms of councilors from two years to four years, councilors serving no more than two consecutive terms, staggered terms for council.

Motion by Mr. Dudley, Seconded by Mr. Turano, that it is the position of the Commission that the Councilors be elected for four-year staggered terms and to serve no more than two consecutive terms.

Motion by Mr. Dudley, Seconded by Mr. Turano, that the motion be amended to include that the Council reorganize every two years with the election of a council president. (Voted Unanimously)

A vote was taken on the original motion as amended. (Voted Unanimously)

Motion by Mr. Angelo, Seconded by Mr. Lawlor, that discussion regarding changing at-large representation to district representation be tabled to the next meeting of the Commission in order to receive input from the Deputy Clerk for elections. (Voted Unanimously)

Motion by Mr. Angelo, Seconded by Mr. Lawlor, that discussion regarding a change in the number of council seats from seven to five be tabled to the next meeting of the Commission for input from the Deputy Clerk for elections. (Voted Unanimously)

Discussion was held regarding the inclusion of a recall provision in the charter, which had been discussed by a former charter commission, but not considered for placement on a ballot. It was noted that there would have to be grounds for removal. Each of the commission members will research the issue of recall and grounds for removal for the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding the process for filling a vacancy on the Council.

Motion by Mr. Angelo, Seconded by Mr. Lawlor, that language be placed in the charter to provide for filling of vacancies on the Council. (Voted Unanimously)

Motion by Mr. Angelo, Seconded by Mr. Lund, that, in the event of an early vacancy, the Council will appoint an individual to fill the vacancy for the unexpired portion of the four-year term until the next general election. (Voted Unanimously)

Ms. Giordano will contact Jason Grammit of the Ethics Commission to invite him to a Commission meeting and will also schedule with the Library a time for the Commission to set up for its April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Commission directed that the IT Director be extended an appreciation for his attendance at this evening's meeting.

The Commission scheduled the next meeting for Wednesday, March 16, 2016, at 5:30 p.m.

#### **4. ADJOURNMENT**

7:17 P.M. Voted Unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna L. Giordano, MMC  
Clerk Pro Tem