

TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER

Charter Review Committee

Dennis C. Gallagher, Chair

Carlton Hunt
Stephanie Ryan
Gerald Muller
Erick Lynch



Michael J. Spagone, Secretary
mspagone@bridgewaterma.org

(508) 697-0919

Academy Building - 66 Central Square
Bridgewater, MA 02324

Bridgewater Charter Review Committee Minutes for the Charter Review Meeting that Convened on September 17, 2014

Meeting called to order as informal session by Dennis C. Gallagher (Chairman of the Committee) in accordance with rules governing meetings and quorum not filled. Meeting starts at 7:07PM.

Members in Attendance: *Dennis C. Gallagher, Carlton Hunt, Stephanie Ryan, Erick Lynch (Arrived at 7:25)*

Members Not Present: *Gerald Muller*

Approval of Agenda: *The Committee accepts the agenda of the current meeting for informal discussion only.*

Public Comments: *There are no public comments for the current meeting.*

Announcements: *There are no announcements for the current meeting.*

Informal Discussion: *The Committee engages in an informal discussion, no formal actions are taken or implied.*

Informal Discussion Recent Developments and Scheduling

The Committee engages in an informal discussion recent developments. The Chair had been contacted by the former Town Government Study Committee (TGSC) chair regarding attendance at the current meeting. Unfortunately, members of the TGSC would be unable to attend and they requested to be on the Charter Review Committee's next agenda. The Chair and Committee accept this request and hope the questions they have supplied to the TGSC will be answered during the next meeting. The Chair and Committee briefly discuss their upcoming schedule and modify their potential topics for conversation as thus: October 1, 2014: Town Government Study Cmte; October 15, 2014: Council President; October 29, 2014: Town Manager.

Mr. Lynch arrives to the meeting, the Chair calls the current meeting into formal session. The time is 7:25PM.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: *The Chair and the Committee consider a group of meeting minutes for the period of July 16, 2014 (07.16.14) through July 30, 2014 (07.30.14). The following votes occur:*

A motion is made by Mr. Hunt to approve the 07.16.14 minutes with a minor revision, seconded by Mr. Lynch. *With a vote of 4 yea, 0 nay the minutes are approved*

A motion is made by Mr. Hunt to approve the 07.30.14 minutes, seconded by Mrs. Ryan. *With a vote of 4 yea, 0 nay, the minutes are approved.*

Additional Items:

Article VII Elections and Related Matters

The Chair and Committee discuss items relative to Article VII of the Town Charter. Mr. Hunt reviews a portion of the Article and notices a grammatical correction needs to be made on Page 27, line 30. The Committee then briefly reviews the occurrences of elections in Section 7-1.

The Committee also briefly discusses the budget process and whether it should be more clearly defined in the Charter.

*A brief conversation on Section 7-3 as it relates to number of signatures for district candidates to be on an election ballot takes place. The Committee discusses whether to change the number of signatures from 100 to 75. **A motion is made by Mr. Hunt to change the number of signatures to get onto a ballot from 100 signatures to 75, seconded by Mr. Lynch.** With a vote of 4 yea, 0 nay, the motion to change language is approved.*

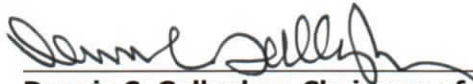
The Chair and Committee then briefly discuss Section 8-1 (elections), which they believe they may need further input from the former Town Government Study Committee. Section 8-2 (initiative petitions) is also mentioned (specifically lines 59 through 68) because it also raises concerns about initiative petitions and how such petitions move forward.

With all business having had formal consideration, the motion is made to adjourn: *The motion to adjourn the current meeting is offered. By unanimous approval of the Committee, the meeting is hereby adjourned. The next meeting will be October 1, 2014.*

Meeting is hereby adjourned by unanimous consensus of the members in attendance in accordance with rules governing meetings. Meeting adjourns at 8:21PM.

I hereby affix my hand to this document that the minutes of this meeting are true and accurate to the best of my ability, note-taking, and penmanship as so ordered by the Chair of the Committee this Seventeenth Day of September Two Thousand and Fourteen.

A True Copy Attest,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis C. Gallagher", written over a horizontal line.

Dennis C. Gallagher, Chairman of the Committee

Michael J. Spagone, Secretary of the Committee