

CITY OF STAMFORD 19TH CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION CITY DEPARTMENTS COMMITTEE

Clemon Williams, Chair

Members

Frances Lane

Thomas Lombardo

JR McMullen

Anthony Pramberger

MINUTES

**Tuesday, September 20, 2022
7:00pm**

The meeting was held remotely.

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. Roll Call - All members were present via Zoom. Commissioner Lombardo had informed the members that he was unavailable for the meeting but would review the recording.
3. Discussion on Charter Review #22 - Add record management and archival functions to the duties of the Town Clerk. On this issue we will have to rely on attorney. The State Statute prescribes the duties of the Town Clerk. A copy of the State Statute was sent to all members for consideration. We need to check to see if this will add cost to the city. Ask Lyda Ruder or Al Cava to supply the job descriptions for employees in the Town Clerk Office. When the Town Clerk comes before the Committee, we will ask whether the Town Clerk has copies of all committees' meetings and agendas.
4. Discussion of Issues 86 – 90

Charter Issue 86 - Consider including compliance with the ADA and accessibility throughout Charter including venues for meetings.

Charter Issue 87 - Consider including compliance with the ADA and accessibility throughout Charter including Government postings;

Charter Issue 88 – Consider including compliance with the ADA and accessibility throughout Charter including Documents.

Charter Issue 89 - Consider including compliance with the ADA and accessibility throughout Charter including Interpreters; and

Charter issue 90 - Consider including compliance with the ADA and accessibility throughout Charter including Closed captioning.

On this issue we will have Vikki Cooper from the Law Department to give the Subcommittee input. We have contacted Vikki Cooper from the Law Department and we will have her discuss these issues. Consequently we will put these issues off until we can have someone from the Law Department is able to address these issues.

5. Discussion on Charter Review issue 32 - Clarify residency requirement – On this issue will ask Michael Toma for his views on instituting residency requirements for certain position in the City. On this we need a better understanding how cities including New York, Hartford, Middlebury and Waterbury have provisions for residency requirements. Members were provided two memorandums on this issue provided by Michael Toma. There are a number of cities and towns in Connecticut have residency requirements and we want to hear from Toma on what we need to do to effectuate having a residency requirement for certain employees in the city. One of the issues we need from Toma is language that would pass muster on this issue. Here we will have to designate between Pay Plan and Union positions. Specifically, we need to know what language we need to have to impose a residency requirement on certain positions.
6. Review and approve Draft Minutes from August meeting. The members reviewed the minutes of the last meeting to make sure that all of the members were in agreement with the minutes from the last meeting. One of items we need to ask the attorney that we appoint is give us direction on who in the city is allowed to give oaths of office for various position. In addition, we discussed whether there should be a distinction between the term “municipal engineer” and “city engineer”. We need to decide whether this is a scrivener error or making a change. We had a motion to change the Charter to change the term Municipal Engineer to City Engineer. It was moved and seconded that where there is a motion that was proposed that we make this change pending a recommendation of the attorney for the Charter Commission. The motion was passed unanimously.

At our meeting on the 18th of October we will invite the Director of Operations. How this will have to be changed.

7. Discuss question we will submit to mayors on any changes they see in the structure City Departments. Everyone should have any questions for the Mayor ready for our next meeting. The following two question will be put forth for the Mayor.

Do you believe we need to make any changes to the current City Department Structure?

Do you believe we need any additions to the mayor’s cabinet?

8. Discuss how we should address “scrivener” errors in the Charter, including but not limited to the use of the terms “City Engineer” and “Municipal Engineer. This was discussed earlier and we will wait until we have attorney on board to address this issue.

There was a motion to approve the minutes as amended. This motion was passed unanimously.

9. New Business

10. Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm.